

Government defeated in vote on PR elections for Europe

Labour opponents of the EEC lined up with Conservative opponents of proportional representation yesterday to defeat heavily the Government's recommendation that the Continental-style voting system be used in the first direct elections to

the European Assembly. By a majority of 97, in a free vote, the Commons called for a simple majority vote in Britain and a single transferable vote in Northern Ireland. The decision was a blow to the Liberals.

Serious blow for Mr Steel

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

The Commons last night rejected by 315 votes to 222, a majority of 97, the Government's recommendation to accept a form of proportional representation as the system to be used in the first direct elections to the European Assembly. An alliance, largely of Labour opponents of the EEC and Conservative opponents of proportional representation, carried a Labour backbench amendment to the European Assembly Bill accepting the traditional British method for elections to Westminster, of first past the post.

The decision was a humiliation to the Government, and a serious blow to its agreement with the Liberals, which were the driving force behind the proportional representation campaign. It will present serious difficulties for Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, fighting to maintain the agreement against growing disenchantment within his party.

The Liberal conference in September warned that the agreement to sustain the Commons would be ended if a substantial majority of Labour MPs did not support the Government in its recommendation of proportional representation.

But yesterday, it was soon evident that MPs on both sides of the House looked on a vote for proportional representation for the European Assembly as the thin end of the wedge which would introduce a similar system being introduced for Westminster elections.

This was the main conclusion to emerge from the two-day meeting which ended yesterday. Both sides appeared pleased that the conversations had gone well, with Mr Callaghan emphasising that the purpose was not to take decisions but to make Anglo-French consultation "a natural habit".

Speaking at a press conference at RAF Halton near Chequers, before Mr Giscard d'Estaing left Heathrow for Paris, Mr Callaghan said the new committee would consider joint projects in offshore oil technology, work on the periphery of computers, the car industry, machine tools and the paper industry.

The two leaders also welcomed plans for a 2,000 megawatt cable under the channel, provided the electricity authorities showed it would be a commercial proposition.

Asked about cooperation on a

tions. As the Commons moved towards a decision it became clear that there was now no hope of reaching the Community target date for these elections of May or June, 1978, whichever system was adopted.

Mr Douglas Hurd, leading off in the debate from the Conservative front bench, produced figures showing conclusively that unless all the legislative days available in January and February were devoted to the European Assembly Elections Bill it would not be possible to obtain Royal Assent in time to meet the deadline. This destroyed one of the main arguments of the Liberals and others who favour proportional representation.

With a free vote on both sides of the House, but with Mr Steel, the Home Secretary, advocating PR on behalf of the Government, and Mr Hurd supporting the traditional system as his personal choice, it was soon clear that the Government was in serious difficulty.

Mr Hurd repeatedly challenged Mr Steel to say whether the Government was prepared to forget about all other legislation, including the Scotland and Wales Bills, for the first two months of the new year, but he failed to get any clear reply.

Advocates of PR, including Mr Heath and Mr Rees, held out the prospect of a carrot to persuade MPs to vote as the Government wished. But it was evident that that was a forlorn hope.

Mr Heath vainly tried to swing the tide in favour of PR. Pledging his support for a guid-

Without any urging from their political leaders, the British and French aircraft industries, along with the West Germans, are developing a family of European airliners.

The family will comprise a 70-100 seater, based on the British HS146 design, a 130-160 seater based largely on a French design, a 200-seater B10 version of the A300 European airliner, and the 300-seater Airbus itself.

Most immediate among these projects, with a decision possibly by January, is the 130-160 seater.

Originally there were two competing European designs, the British HS146 and the French A200. But British Aerospace, the nationalised aircraft industry, has now agreed that its X-11 design should be placed in a "fall-back position". A team of 20 engineers from the four potential partner countries has been set up at its headquarters at Weybridge, Surrey, to work out details of the new airliner.

The JET team, as it is known, has been told to start with "blank sheets of paper", but it is certain that its members are leaning heavily on the French work which has already been completed on the A200 design.

Photograph, page 6; £250m Channel power link, page 17

Our Air Correspondent writes: The new spirit of Anglo-French entente is to be extended by industrial cooperation between the two countries.

Mr Hurd calculated that the Royal Assent would not be reached until May 24. On the basis of Mr Rees's estimate that it would then take three months to prepare for and hold the elections, the target date was out of the question. As the Prime Minister had said, it would not be the end of the world if the elections were postponed. Mr Hurd said it would be a great mistake to impose an important voting innovation on top of the innovation of direct elections.

Opening the debate Mr Rees told the House that he related to no one in his support for the traditional system of election for the House of Commons. But Europe was different.

He believed that the regional list system was appropriate for the European Assembly. It would enable speedier progress to be made and could produce a more representative result than a simple majority system. When there were only 81 seats the swings would be enormous between elections.

Mr Rees said that unless there was a speed-up in proceedings after Christmas, the chances of achieving the target date under the first-past-the-post system were extremely remote.

Under the regional list system they were talking about a period of three months between Royal Assent and the completion of the elections.

Parliamentary report, page 3

Department of Trade inspectors have made strong criticisms of Sir Charles Hardie, a leading accountant and former chairman of BOAC, and Mr Eric Levine, a City solicitor, in their report on London Capital Group, which Mr John Stonehouse, the jailed Labour Minister, built up five years ago.

The inspectors, Mr Ian Hay Davidson, a chartered accountant, and Mr Michael Sheppard, QC, say Mr Stonehouse's companies "were saturated with offences, irregularities and improprieties of one kind or another."

"The prime mover undoubtedly was Mr Stonehouse, who was concerned in the execution and attempted concealment of almost all the irregular schemes..."

Sir Charles and Mr Levine are criticised for their role in the preparation of the audit for the first seven trading months of London Capital Group, the former BBT, to June 30, 1973. BBT was set up to finance close links with the emergent Bangladesh nation.

The inspectors say it was clear that at least 25 per cent of total loans outstanding at June 30 of £748,000 were represented by loan accounts of the directors and associated companies.

Mr Levine quite wrongly advised that the directors' report need not refer to the loans in question because each loan contract should be considered separately and its materiality judged in isolation. "The inspectors say. His firm was adviser to BBT."

BAOR equipment 'badly deficient', officers declare

By Charles Douglas-Home

Allegations of serious deficiencies in the standard of equipment and spares in the British Army have been made to *The Times* by serving officers. They maintain that the deteriorating state of weapons and equipment has contributed to the loss of army morale caused by low pay.

The allegations concern Rhine Army anti-aircraft defences, anti-tank weapons, ammunition transport and radios, which, officers say, are so old or so scarce that they make a mockery of ministerial statements about the state of readiness of British forces assigned to West Germany.

The allegations in detail, and rebuttals by senior army sources

with recent operational experience in Germany, are given below.

However, they come at a time when not only Service pay is causing concern to soldiers. Last week a seminar on Britain's reserve forces, held at the Royal United Services Institute in Whitehall, heard officers venting criticisms.

It was pointed out at the seminar that Britain has no real reserve, since all our reserves, on mobilisation, would be sent to make up serious deficiencies in the regular order of battle.

Moreover, officers still serving as reservists warned the seminar that their units were equipped with such old-fashioned weapons that there

were no spares for them, or that they had to rely on assurances that modern equipment would be available for them on mobilisation, although they had never trained with it.

The allegations about the Rhine Army's equipment and the rebuttals are as follows: Anti-aircraft defences: The Rapier anti-aircraft missile is the Army's only air defence, yet the British Corps has only two Rapier regiments to defend its entire area. It has no effective means of transport or protection for the missile crew. When Britain tried to sell the missile overseas, Middle Eastern governments bought it only on condition that the system could be augmented with American-built anti-aircraft defences.

Comment: Rapier was designed to be air-portable for Britain's global

requirements, so there was no armoured chassis available for its deployment with the Rhine Army, although that will probably be produced in time. A third artillery regiment is equipping with Rapier, RAF airfields are defended by the RAF Regiment with Rapier, and further air defence would be provided in an emergency by volunteer reserve units with guns and the Blowpipe missile. Since the Blowpipe is a medium-range rocket, in the opinion of most infantrymen who have to use it, it is hopelessly, even dangerously, out of date and frequently fails to detonate.

(b) The same criticisms apply to the 88mm Carl Gustav rocket. Comment: These short-range weapons have recognized limitations but the Army is due to declare a replacement. The delay has been caused by technical evolution of a difficult weapon system.

(c) Milan. Although due to replace the aging Wombat recoilless gun, it will not reach most battalions until the mid-1980s, leaving them without any effective anti-tank capability for up to seven years. Comment: Training with Milan has now started at the School of Infantry. It is a first-generation medium-range weapon that has required much research. It will be produced as quickly as possible, but might be introduced more rapidly if the political situation deteriorated.

Chief tank: Because of cuts in the defence budget, officers have been told there are no spare engines for the Chieftains located in Germany in spite of that tank's widespread engine trouble. When tanks break down on exercises, they have to be towed back to camp and left, while the crews have replacements.

Comment: The Chieftain's engine

Continued on page 6, col 5

Stonehouse report criticizes advisers

By Nicholas Hirst

Department of Trade inspectors have made strong criticisms of Sir Charles Hardie, a leading accountant and former chairman of BOAC, and Mr Eric Levine, a City solicitor, in their report on London Capital Group, which Mr John Stonehouse, the jailed Labour Minister, built up five years ago.

The inspectors, Mr Ian Hay Davidson, a chartered accountant, and Mr Michael Sheppard, QC, say Mr Stonehouse's companies "were saturated with offences, irregularities and improprieties of one kind or another."

"The prime mover undoubtedly was Mr Stonehouse, who was concerned in the execution and attempted concealment of almost all the irregular schemes..."

Sir Charles and Mr Levine are criticised for their role in the preparation of the audit for the first seven trading months of London Capital Group, the former BBT, to June 30, 1973. BBT was set up to finance close links with the emergent Bangladesh nation.

The inspectors say it was clear that at least 25 per cent of total loans outstanding at June 30 of £748,000 were represented by loan accounts of the directors and associated companies.

Mr Levine quite wrongly advised that the directors' report need not refer to the loans in question because each loan contract should be considered separately and its materiality judged in isolation. "The inspectors say. His firm was adviser to BBT."

Sir Charles Hardie, despite explicit advice to the contrary from his own legal adviser, quite wrongly capitulated to the view that settlement of the loans would obviate the need to disclose them in the accounts.

Dixon Wilson, Sir Charles's firm, were auditors to BBT. In contrast to the criticisms of the 1973 audit, his firm is praised for its persistence in revealing the "extensive improprieties" a year later.

As a result of their findings the inspectors make a number of recommendations, some of which have been followed up in the recent White Paper on directors' responsibilities.

These include: a change in the definition of "director".

Continued on page 17, col 4



Chairman Hsu Kuo-feng (in light jacket) helps volunteers to dig the site for a dam at Ma-yun, 40 miles north-east of Peking.

Call to tape-record suspects' interviews

The police should tape-record their interviews with suspects and only confessions supported by recordings should be the basis for a conviction, a report by Sir Henry Fisher, a former High Court judge, says today.

Sir Henry has been investigating for two years the circumstances leading to the trial and conviction of three youths after the death of a transvestite homosexual prostitute, Maxwell Confait, in his home at Catford, London. His report criticises the preparation of the prosecution case.

It recommends a tightening of the Judges' Rules on investigations, including use of a new police caution to make clearer that a suspect is entitled to say nothing.

"So long as there is no supporting evidence for a confession, the police should not automatically conclude their inquiries on the assumption that the confession is true but should continue other inquiries until they are satisfied that all alternatives have been excluded", it says.

Sir Henry says the police do not see it as their duty to initiate inquiries that might sug-

gest they had got the wrong man, or that for some other reason the prosecution should fail. Nobody outside the police "regards it as his duty to spur the police on to question the case and to follow lines of inquiry which might be inconsistent with it," he adds.

"There have been enough cases of police misbehaviour in England to give rise to suspicion when events such as these in the Confait case occur, and to justify a reconsideration of the control exercised over police interrogation."

He urges changes to ensure that the whole evidence is evaluated in a critical way in the DPP's office. He also says that pathologists, whose evidence in the Confait case did not make clear information that was vital for one defence alibi, should see any witness's statement that might be relevant to time of death.

Mr David McNee, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, last night welcomed the report, made before the report's publication, had proved unfounded.

Report and reaction, page 4

Two French nuns kidnapped in Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires, Dec 13.—Two French nuns involved in human rights activities have been kidnapped by armed civilians claiming to be members of Argentine security forces.

The French Consul here said today. Sister Alicia Domon, aged 40, of the Order of Foreign Missionaries, was snatched from her home in central Buenos Aires on Thursday night and Sister Leonie Duquet, aged 59, was taken away on Saturday morning. —Reuter.

They cut open the side of the cash carrier with a mechanical metal grinder. After the raid, in which the gang used five vehicles, the gunmen left in the box van. The driver dropped about five men where a bridge crossed the M1 about a mile away. He parked the van in Beech Tree Lane, between Leverstock Green and St Albans, ran across a garden, and joined the rest of the gang on the M1. They drove towards London in the escape vehicle.

Two men from it forced the occupants of the escort vehicle at gunpoint to go to the armoured van. At the same time a green Mark II Cortina drove across the road and two men ran to the cash carrier and fired a shot through the windscreen. They also fired shots at the offside tyres.

They cut open the side of the cash carrier with a mechanical metal grinder. After the raid, in which the gang used five vehicles, the gunmen left in the box van. The driver dropped about five men where a bridge crossed the M1 about a mile away. He parked the van in Beech Tree Lane, between Leverstock Green and St Albans, ran across a garden, and joined the rest of the gang on the M1. They drove towards London in the escape vehicle.

Israeli and Egyptian peace teams hold first meeting

From Edward Mortimer

Direct negotiations between Egypt and Israel began here today with a one-and-a-half hour informal meeting devoted to discussion of procedure for tomorrow's formal opening of the Cairo peace conference.

The meeting took place over coffee and cakes in the wing occupied by the Egyptian delegation in the Mena House Hotel, near the pyramids. The host was the head of the Egyptian delegation, Dr Esmat Abdel Meguid, who is Egypt's Ambassador to the United Nations.

Also present on the Egyptian side was Dr Osama el Baz, a high-ranking diplomat who was one of the party accompanying President Sadat on his visit to Israel last month.

Israel was represented by its head of delegation, Mr Elihu Ben Elissur, who is director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, and Dr Meir Rosenne, legal adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Neither the United Nations nor the United States was represented, although both will be present at the formal conference.

ings were concerned purely with procedure for tomorrow, not with the agenda for the conference as a whole, which is to be decided at the first closed session tomorrow.

This is to be preceded by a public meeting which will be opened by Dr Abdel Meguid, who as delegate of the host country will also act as chairman throughout the conference. After him, each of the other three heads of delegation will make a short speech, in alphabetical order.

There will be no observers at the conference, which Dr Sadat described as an informal preparatory meeting to pave the way for the resumption of the Geneva conference and to get rid of procedural matters which may entangle it.

The Israeli delegates arrived in Cairo this morning on a special El Al flight and were driven to the conference hotel through a city festooned with banners.

Public places had been draped with Egyptian flags, but there were no Israeli flags and no messages in Hebrew. Nor were there any watching crowds since it had been announced—presumably for security reasons—that the delegates would be taken to the hotel by helicopter.

Vance rebuff in Syria, page 6

Firemen will reject pay offer today

The employers' latest offer, of a pay formula to take effect over two years, will be rejected today by the Fire Brigades Union executive as a way of ending the strike.

Some firemen voted to accept the offer, but the biggest brigades, including London and Greater Manchester, rejected it. The union is expected to await reports from its officials before taking action over the clashes at Epping on Monday between pickets and part-time firemen.

Pay policy condemned

The Society of Civil and Public Servants has condemned the finance and general purposes committee of the TUC for condoning "Government attempts to impose an arbitrary and discriminatory incomes policy in the public sector". It says the committee's decision not to support the firemen's strike was contrary to TUC policy, and calls for its reversal.

Critical Rhodesia talks

Settlement talks between the Rhodesian Government and three internally based nationalist movements will reach a critical stage today. The meeting could decide whether the talks can be split into separate committees to discuss details or whether they will stall on the Government's insistence on a third of a future parliament's seats being held by whites.

Output drop points to rise in unemployment

Industrial production shows no signs of picking up, despite the economic stimulus given by Mr Healey in the summer. The implication of Government figures, which showed that industrial production fell by about 1½ per cent in October, is that unemployment will probably rise this winter.

Spy inquiry in Bonn

A senior adviser in the West German Ministry of Defence is being investigated as a result of the disclosure that vital military secrets have been passed to East Germany. The adviser's former secretary was allegedly the key figure in the spy ring.

Spassky blunders

A blunder by Boris Spassky, former world chess champion, drew gasps of dismay from spectators in Belgrade and brought him another defeat at the hands of Viktor Korchnoi. Korchnoi now leads 6-2 in the match to decide who will play Anatoly Karpov for the world title.

Cancer: Methods of recording the incidence of the disease do not show up some new cancers, the Royal Society was told.

British Library: Approval for the construction of a new home for the British Library is expected in the coming year.

Leader, page 15

Letters: On the role of water in a Middle East peace, from Mr Edmund de Rothschild; the Crown Agents inquiry, from Sir Claude Hayes; absenteeism in the House, from Mr Robin Hodgson.

Leading articles: The dollar; Servicemen and unions; El Salvador.

Features, pages 12 and 14

Bernard Lewis continues his articles on the stark reality of China today; Edward Mortimer on the Israeli-Egyptian peace talks in Cairo.

Sport, pages 9 and 10

Cricket: Cope and Rose earn their first caps for England; Football: Ron Greenwood gives his first press conference as England's team manager.

Arts, page 11

Michael Radcliffe on *Man Alive* (BBC 2); Glynis Roberts talks to Silvio Narizzano about his new film *John Ford* on the National Ballet of Canada; concert notices by William Mann, Stanley Sadie and Joan Chissell.

Business News, pages 17-23

Stock markets: Worries over today's trade figures hit shares and the FT Index closed 7.5 down at 476.9. Gills also fell back.

Financial Editor: Smith & Nephew—a new growth phase; Lloyds International—an income-boosting rights issue.

Business features: The bleak economic prospects confronting Australia's re-elected government are discussed by Douglas Aitken.

Home News, 2, 4, 5

Law Report, 12

Obituary, 15, 16

Parliament, 16, 17

Science, 16

Snow report, 9

Sport, 10, 11

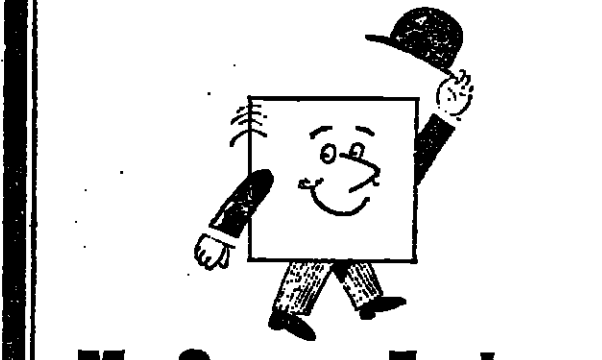
TV & Radio, 10, 11

Theatres, etc, 10, 11

25 Years Ago, 16

Weather, 16

Wills, 16



Mr. Square Footage is very industrious in Scotland

- Shops & Offices
- Industrial
- Investment

It's all part of the Knight Frank & Rutley service.

Knight Frank & Rutley
8 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4DR
Telephone 031-225 7105

BIRTHS
NATWEST - On December 12th at 53 Threadneedle Street, London EC2, to NatWest International, a bigger, faster dealing room for foreign exchange and eurocurrencies. A brother for all NatWest customers. Enquiries to 01-588 3950 or 01-588 6331.

NatWest World Money Centre

The World Money Centre combines the former Dealing Rooms of International Money Desk and International Westminster Bank Ltd, London. Computerised display system which incorporates automatic calculation of deposit and exchange rates. Over 20 telephone lines direct to Dealing Room. Private Telecommunication lines with branches and subsidiaries in Bahrain, Brussels, Chicago, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, New York, Paris, San Francisco, Singapore, Tokyo, Zurich.

HOME NEWS

Inquiry into Conflat killing five years ago criticizes police breaches of Judges' Rules

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The prolonged controversy over the conduct of the police and the findings of the courts in the case of Maxwell Conflat, the homosexual prostitute murdered at Catford, London, in 1972, took a surprising new twist yesterday with the report of the Fisher inquiry.

The findings of the inquiry by Sir Henry Fisher, President of Wollaton College, Oxford, and a former High Court Judge, differ in important respects from those of both previous court hearings.

Three youths were freed by the Court of Appeal in 1975 after being convicted in 1972 on charges arising out of Mr Conflat's death and a fire at 27 Doggett Road, Catford, where his body was found by firemen.

Sir Henry finds that on the balance of probabilities the most likely explanation is that all three youths took part in the arson of which they were convicted by the trial court; that Ronald Leighton and Ahmet Salih were involved in the killing, in relation to which Mr Salih never stood trial; and that Colin Lattimore, who was convicted of manslaughter by the trial court, was not involved in the killing.

The Court of Appeal, on a reference by the Home Secretary of the day, quashed the convictions of the three youths on the ground that their confessions were unreliable in the light of expert evidence and so were unsafe and unsatisfactory.

Mr Lattimore (aged 18 at the time of Mr Conflat's death) was acquitted of manslaughter because of insanity, and Mr Leighton (aged 15) of murder; and Mr Salih (then aged 14) of arson.

The Court of Appeal decision is not affected by Sir Henry's findings. The courts have been satisfied with the burden of proof beyond reasonable doubt.

In a parliamentary written reply yesterday Mr Rees, Home Secretary, said: "Sir Henry makes it clear that in coming to these conclusions he was not bound by the verdict of the jury or the judgment of the Court of Appeal, that the arguments addressed to him were not in all respects the same as those

put to the courts and that he had available to him a great deal of evidence which was not before the courts.

In his report Sir Henry criticizes the conduct of the police investigation, including the interviewing of the youths in the absence of their parents, and certain specific breaches of the Judges' Rules.

He rejects, however, other allegations about the way in which the youths' confessions were obtained and finds that the allegations that the police had assaulted them were untrue.

Sir Henry also suggests an amendment of the wording of the police caution to make its legal meaning plain. The evidence he had heard suggested that persons to whom the caution was addressed often did not understand that what they were being told was that they were under no obligation to answer questions put by the police and would not be harming their position in any way if they did not answer.

Sir Henry's report says that on April 24, 1972, during separate interviews with Detective Chief Superintendent Alan Watson, who was in charge of the investigation, Colin Lattimore and Ronald Leighton confessed to having taken part in the killing of Mr Conflat. Ahmet Salih confessed to having been present. All three boys confessed to having taken part in the arson at 27 Doggett Road.

Later in the evening of April 24, and during the early hours of April 25, each of the boys repeated his confession in a written statement made in the presence of one of his parents, and in the case of Salih in the presence also of an interpreter. Mr Lattimore's father and Mr Leighton's mother signed statements expressing satisfaction with the way in which the statements were taken.

"In their evidence at the trial all three boys alleged on oath that they had been physically assaulted by a police officer," Sir Henry says. "These allegations were repeated in evidence before me by Salih and by Lattimore. I find that the allegations were untrue."

I find that no police officer deliberately falsified the record

of oral answers given by the three boys to questions. The police officers tried to record as accurately as possible the questions and the answers given and the written statements made by the boys. The records are substantially accurate in all relevant respects."

Sir Henry finds that the fire at 27 Doggett Road was probably started shortly before 1.10 am on April 22, 1972, and could not have been set alight before 12.45 am. He also finds that Mr Conflat died not later than midnight, April 21/22, and probably died before 10.30 pm on April 21.

"I accept the evidence that Lattimore was at the Salvation Army Torchbearers youth club from about 7.30 pm to about 11.30 pm. I find that he was not present at and did not take part in the killing of Conflat."

"I find that Leighton and Salih could have been present at and taken part in the killing of Conflat, and that all three boys could have taken part in setting fire to 27 Doggett Road. I find that the confessions could not have been made as they were unless at least one of the three boys had been involved in the killing of Conflat and in the arson at 27 Doggett Road."

Sir Henry finds that there were the following breaches of the Judges' Rules and Home Office administrative directions:

Mr Leighton, Mr Salih, interviewed by police officers without the presence of a parent or guardian or someone who was not a police officer, although it would have been practicable to delay the interviews until their mothers or some other person who was not a police officer could be brought there.

When the three boys were taken into custody they were not formed orally of the rights and facilities available to them, namely to communicate by telephone with their solicitor or their friends, and to consult privately a solicitor, provided that no unreasonable delay or hindrance was reasonably likely to be caused to the processes of investigation or to the administration of justice by their doing so. Nor was their statement drawn to the notice describing the rights and facilities available to them.

During the taking of a written statement from Mr Lattimore, he was prompted, and questions were asked which were not needed



The face of power at Ratcliffe-on-Soar, Nottinghamshire, where the cooling towers put housing in the shade.

MP who advised boys rejects guilt verdict

By Stewart Tendler
Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, who campaigned for the three boys involved in the Conflat case, said last night that, while he welcomed the general conclusion that the three boys were innocent, he rejected Sir Henry Fisher's judgment on the guilt of the three boys.

Sir Henry has decided that Mr Colin Lattimore was involved in arson and that Mr Ronald Leighton and Ahmet Salih were involved in the killing of Mr Maxwell Conflat. In the report, Sir Henry says: "On the balance of probabilities, I find that this is what occurred."

But Mr Price, whose dogged defence of the boys forced the inquiry, said he completely disagreed with those conclusions. He said he had been allowed to hear the evidence put before Sir Henry, and the latter's decision did not tally with the evidence he had heard.

Mr Price said that he wished in many ways that he had not advised them to take part in the inquiry, which had produced a different verdict from two previous examinations of the case against them.

Mr Price said: "Sir Henry is talking about the balance of probabilities. I know these three boys and I know they are innocent."

Not all the evidence had been before Sir Henry, Mr Price said. He had been advised by a psychiatrist from the Tavistock Institute about the way such boys would be affected by being in a police station in such circumstances. It was possible in such circumstances to put anything into a boy's head and the boy would stop it out.

On the other hand, Mr Price said he was pleased that the suggestions made by Sir Henry on the question of police inter-

Man in the news: Defector driven by intellectual restlessness Academic with Bench and board-room experience

By Marcel Berlins

The legal establishment has never completely forgiven Sir Henry Fisher for having left the secure and cosseted world of the judiciary for the brasher commercial pastures of the City.

He did so, moreover, at a time when his prospects as a judge looked extremely rosy. He was appointed to the High Court in 1968 at the early age of 49, and there is little doubt that barring accidents, he would have become a judge in the Court of Appeal. He could, in all probability, have achieved even higher judicial eminence.

Sir Henry resigned from the Bench in 1970, after only two and a half years' service, and joined the board of Schroder & Wagg, the merchant bankers, with whom he stayed until, in 1975, he became President of Wollaton College, Oxford, in succession to Sir Isaiah Berlin.

His most recent legal venture, the deflection was inexplicable. Those who knew him better, however, saw it as consistent with an intellectual restlessness that constantly sought new challenges. His friends say that he left the Bench not so much for the money (although he probably more than doubled his pre-tax judicial salary) but because he became bored with much of the routine and unstimulating work he had to do as a judge.

Before his conversion Sir Henry had had an archetypal brilliant career, destined to take him to the top of his profession. The eldest son of Lord Fisher of Lambeth the former Archbishop of Canterbury, he was a distinguished classical scholar, Oxford first, and fellow of All Souls, served in the war and was called to the



Sir Henry Fisher: Academic judge, banker.

Better price display plea to butchers

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

A minister appealed to butchers yesterday to improve price displays for Christmas. Mr Robert MacLennan, Under-Secretary of State, Prices and Consumer Protection, pointed out that butchers would have to show prices a pound by March next year and appealed to those who had not yet made their permanent plans to consider making arrangements to cover the Christmas period.

Officials at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection have reported that most butchers are not yet quoting prices a pound for all cuts.

Call to restrict choice of school by parents

From Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent
Wolverhampton

The right of parents to have their children educated according to their wishes should be restricted, the metropolitan education authorities of England and Wales decided at their conference, at Wolverhampton, yesterday.

By 22 votes to 11 they voted to call on the Government to amend the Education Act, 1944, so as to avoid parental misunderstanding and disappointment over choice of school.

A representative from Hillingdon, London, said the law allowed a minority of parents to ride roughshod over the

Tax ruling drives oil divers to quit North Sea

By Craig Seton

The North Sea Divers Action Group yesterday started a campaign to reverse a Treasury decision to end their self-employed status. They say it has drastically cut their income and, because it is driving experienced divers abroad, is slowing oil production.

At a press conference in London it was stated that up to 250 of the 1,400 divers had decided to leave for more lucrative work abroad. The ruling that tax must be paid through PAYE might induce 700 more to leave the area when the season resumes in April.

The Treasury said that the were employed by contractors and should have been paying PAYE. They could appeal against the decision.

Mr Neil Henderson, chairman of the action group, said divers were losing up to half their income, compared with a quarter as self-employed people (earnings of between £5,000 and £12,000 a year). They had also lost the right to write off against tax the cost of travelling which might be up to £1,000 a year, clothing and equipment. The Treasury's decision was an incredible blunder, he said.

"We are not going to black-mail anyone. We have no need to; as free agents supplying our services for a fee the divers have the choice of many fields throughout the world. All we much easier to work in and none involves the unjust financial penalties imposed here."

Artist faces plot and deceit charges

Tom Keating, aged 60, the artist, and Lionel Evans, an art dealer, appeared at the Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday on charges relating to the sale of works by Mr Keating as those of earlier and better-known artists.

Mr Keating, of Lower Park, Dedham, Essex, faces one charge of conspiracy and three of obtaining £1,125 by deception jointly with Mr Evans, aged 46, and five charges of making false representations. Mr Evans' address was given as East Bergholt, Suffolk.

The conspiracy charge concerned the representation of four paintings as the genuine works of Samuel Palmer, and the joint deception counts relate to another "Palmer", a drawing dated 1825 presented as a genuine Constable, and an oil painting alleged to be the work of Cornelius Krieghoff.

The five false representation counts against Mr Keating alone relate to the procurement of cheques for £399, £8,667, £3,750, also procured by the same means, the transfer of £3,600 to Miss Jane Kelly, and procuring a further cheque for £4,000, all relating to paintings represented as the work of Samuel Palmer.

The hearing continues today.

Father opposed to caning loses appeal

A father's belief that corporal punishment was "cruel, unnecessary and detrimental to a child's development" was no excuse for his refusal to return his son, aged 14, to school to be caned for indiscipline. Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce said in the High Court yesterday.

"Although the father may regard the grounds of his refusal to send his son back to school as reasonable, they are not grounds that entitle a father, under the Education Act, 1944, to keep his child away from school," the judge said.

Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, and Mr Justice Park, agreed that the father's appeal against his conviction by magistrates at Croydon of failing to send his son regularly to school between certain dates last year should be dismissed.

The boy will not have to return to the school to be caned. He is now at a school where there is no caning.

Environmental cancers that elude detection

By a Staff Reporter

Methods of recording the incidence of cancer do not show up the emergence of new cancers attributable to new causes, Sir Richard Doll, Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford University, told the Royal Society in London yesterday.

"Any cancer produced by new environmental agents that was not also produced by other causes in the past would not appear in the records, as it would not have been coded separately," he said.

If cancer registries were to monitor the appearance of new diseases, they would need an extremely detailed coding system, capable of picking out, for example, liver cancers attributable to industrial exposure to vinyl chloride.

One of 14 cases recorded since 1960 of angiosarcomas of the liver occurred in a man who had been a process worker in PVC manufacture. Another victim had lived within half a mile of the same factory.

Such cases came to light when suspicions raised by clinicians, pathologists and toxicologists were investigated.

Sir Richard, speaking on long-term effects from man-made chemicals in the environment, said mortality in children had decreased by 90 per cent since

Police forces at crisis level

Manpower shortages are making the daily job of the police increasingly difficult and dangerous, Mr David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said yesterday.

More cash urged for study of rheumatic diseases

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

The £2m to £3m provided annually for research into arthritis and rheumatism, more than half by the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, is foolish penny-pinching, Dr Colin Barnes, chairman of the council's executive committee, says in a booklet.

Research provides information useful for diagnosis and treatment of about two hundred conditions, but is being done on a very limited budget, he says. The impetus can be maintained only by providing more money.

"Infection means that the joints can no longer expand in their activities," he continues. Apart from the pain and suffering of victims, the diseases result in a loss of 44 million working days a year, costing £420m in lost production and £260m in lost wages. Each year

MP presses cases of 85 thalidomide children

Immediate action is needed to settle the cases of 85 thalidomide children still outstanding, Mr Jack Ashley, the Labour MP who campaigned for the original settlement for thalidomide children, said yesterday.

He was deeply disturbed to hear that those children, now what is known as the Y list, face adolescence without their cases being settled.

In a letter to Mr Robin Carter, chairman of the Disasters Company, which marketed thalidomide in Britain, Mr Ashley has asked for an urgent meeting.

He wrote that the Y children, now in their teens, "face a lifetime of poverty unless something is done, and I am writing to urge you to take immediate action". The Y list consists of children whose claims that the damage they suffered was through thalidomide are not as strong as those of children on the X list, who have been com-

Prescription fee changes only "a palliative"

A plan to pay small pharmacies more for dispensing prescriptions, reducing by a corresponding amount a sum paid to larger businesses, was described yesterday by Mr Robert Worby, chairman of the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee, as only a palliative.

He said that the attitude of Mr Ronald Secretary of State for Social Services, towards the "underfunding of the pharmaceutical service" was "totally unsatisfactory and added that his committee would put the case for a better arrangement again to Mr Ennals.

"A 'Robin Peter and Paul' scheme, announced on Monday was intended to help small pharmacies, which close at the rate of 250 a year. The Government is to contribute £5m extra to help to launch the scheme."

Correction
Mr Charles Lewis defended Maurice Birch Brown, a lorry driver found not guilty at the Central Criminal Court last Wednesday of manslaughter and the use of a dangerous weapon, appeared for the prosecution.

هذا من الالط

HOME NEWS

Optimism on new home for British Library

By a Staff Reporter

Lord Eccles, chairman of the board of the British Library, said yesterday that he hoped for government approval in the coming year to build a new home for the library in Euston Road, London.

Ministers concerned were convinced of the need, he said, but difficulties were caused by the economy. Nevertheless he believed permission would be given before the end of 1978.

Detailed plans for the new building, on the site of a disused railway yard, are being prepared. At present the library is hampered by severe shortage of space.

There is emphasis by the annual report, published yesterday, in 1975-77 the reference division acquired two million items, including 105,000 books, as well as music scores, maps, official publications, manuscripts and newspapers.

Among the manuscript acquisitions were significant papers of Lord Liverpool, Sir Robert Peel and Lord Palmerston, and important material relating to George Eliot, George Gissing, George Bernard Shaw and Arnold Bennett.

The number of British requests received by the lending division was 2,570,000 last year, a 7 per cent increase over the previous year, but there was a much greater expansion in the use of the overseas service. 377,000 requests were received from 98 countries, a 26 per cent increase.

Dr Keith Barr, executive director of the lending division, said United Kingdom demand was near saturation: most libraries used the service and financial constraints precluded any great increase in the number of requests that could be handled.

The overseas service makes a small profit, and the library has been actively promoting it. The British Library, Fourth Annual Report, 1976-77 (British Library, Press and Public Relations Section, Store Street, London, WC1E 7DG, free).

Dysentery at school

Sixteen pupils have dysentery at Searcroft Grange Primary School, Leeds, and 42 other cases are being investigated. The school, with 330 pupils, is being closed until after Christmas.

Early action promised on inner-city decay

From Our Correspondent Birmingham

Early action to breathe life into the decaying inner areas of some of Britain's cities was promised yesterday by Mr Fresson, Minister for Housing and Construction. He was chairman at the first of several inner-city partnership committee meetings in Birmingham, one of seven cities involved in government-backed plans to reverse urban decline. Similar meetings have already been held in four other cities.

Mr Fresson said Birmingham had been allocated £2.5m under the urban programme for next year, which would lay the

groundwork while the inner-area programme was prepared. Over three years to 1982, £30m had been set aside for the city's inner areas.

The minister said a range of interested bodies would be consulted. A policy document would go out from the initial meeting and at the next meeting, in February, he hoped there would be a full discussion on how community involvement could be organized.

Meetings would be kept to the smallest number of people necessary to do the work. "There has to be a job of work done and to do that we cannot have large gatherings", he said.

£40m EEC scheme for better Irish border links

A £40m programme to improve road and telephone links between Ulster and the north-west of the Irish Republic is outlined in a report published yesterday.

It recommends a new £14m bridge across the Foyle in Londonderry and an airport near Londonderry to link with Dublin.

The report has been drawn up by consultants appointed under EEC auspices by the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland governments. Finance for carrying out the proposals will be shared equally by the EEC and the two governments.

Call for inquiry under Police Act is rejected

By Our Parliamentary Staff

A public inquiry under the Police Act was not justified in the case of Mr Leslie Towers, aged 39, an electrician and amateur boxing coach, who died after alleged police violence, Dr Shirley Summerskill, Under-Secretary, Home Office, said in an adjournment debate in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Giles Radice, Labour MP for Chester-le-Street, said Mr Towers was allegedly assaulted after his arrest on January 15, 1976, in his constituency. He died on February 9, 1976, in hospital.

Man loses claim to share in ex-mistress's house

Mr Rex Nightingale, aged 62, father of 12 children, has no legal rights in the £24,000 house he shared with his former mistress for 16 years, Mr Justice Fox decided in the High Court yesterday.

When they built the house at Lakeside, Portway Drive, Croughton, near Brackley, Northamptonshire, Mr Nightingale agreed that it should be in the name of his mistress, Mrs Denise Nightingale, aged 39, a teacher, the judge said. He could not go back on that.

Farming of sea fish may become profitable

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Farming of sea fish is well on the way to commercial viability, and tests have shown that housewives find it difficult to pick farmed fish from the wild ones.

The trade and industry sub-committee of the House of Commons Expenditures Committee heard that from witnesses yesterday when members turned to marine fish farming in their investigation of the fishing industry, now entering its second year.

Mr Norman Kerr, chief technical officer of the White Fish Authority, said the authority was convinced that the farming of sea fish on a commercial scale was likely to be an economic proposition and desirable for the country.

It was not economic at present, but a costing exercise showed that it could be conducted at a price less than the sale price of wild cod and similar species. In the past two years progress had been made with sole and turbot.

Mr Tim Cracknell, chairman of the National Farmers' Union fish farming committee, said his company, British Oxygen, was increasing its investment in marine species.

Mr Eric Euston, chairman of the fish farming committee of the Fisheries Research and Development Board, agreed Mr Kerr's view that a minimum investment figure for a sea fish farm operation would be about £500,000 to £600,000. "This is a matter the Government has to take into account", he said.

Man dead in flat

Mr Hideo Mulder, aged 73, was found dead in a flat at Ilford, London, yesterday. A woman aged 65, believed to be suffering from a drug overdose, was also in the flat.

The Moon cult, 3: Training manual's advice about parents

Men with short hair and well scrubbed faces

By Diana Parr

Members of the Moon cult are forbidden sexual intercourse before marriage. Inter-course with a "sister" or "brother" within the movement is an unforgivable sin.

Men and women in the cult are "married" or blessed by Mr Moon, usually large numbers of couples at a time and after they have been members of the movement for about three years. The cult teaches: "Husband and wife must feel stronger love towards the Lord (Moon) than between themselves."

The number seven is symbolic, according to Mr Moon, who is something of a numerologist. "Married couples must abstain from the marriage relationship for at least seven months. There are those in Korea who have been abstaining for over seven years and live as sister and brother."

"Those whom God loves just cannot continue their married life. God strikes at their bodies and they cannot continue."

The teaching of the Unification Church is a sort of evangelical cocktail, with an ingredient of what many would regard as sheer lunacy.

James Björnsdottir, in his book, *The Moon is not the Son*, describes it thus: "Start with a well seasoned Messiah, a sophy, add plenty of Christian words and phrases and even some Bible verses, and stir briskly until they blend together."

"Now add a bit of spiritism, not too much mysticism, a pinch of numerology, a dab of physics and a dash of anti-communism; mix it all together using a Korean Messiah until it bleeds, and you have the recipe for one of the new religious movements, the Unification Church founded by the Rev Sun Myung Moon."

The self-styled Messiah was born to a Presbyterian family in 1920 in the Pungang Buk-do province of what is now North Korea. After the Second World War he became involved in an underground Pentecostal movement of an extreme nature in Pyongyang.

That group believed Korea was the new Jerusalem of the Bible and that the Messiah would be born in Korea. Those elements are to be found in Mr Moon's *Divine Principle*.

Moon teaches that Adam and Eve were placed in the Garden of Eden to marry and produce perfect children free of sin. But Eve committed fornication with Lucifer, causing the spiritual fall of mankind.

Whereas Christianity teaches that Jesus will return to Earth, Moon teaches that a Messiah, a man, will return as the Lord of the Second Advent.

A new age dawned in 1960, the year that Mr Moon married his new wife. The Lord of the Second Advent and his new wife became the true parents of mankind. It is that teaching above all that makes this religious cocktail so explosive. Parents who attack the Unification Church are called "Satanic". The two secret 120-day training manual instructs members to have contact with parents "before they start to investigate the UC", so that they "feel peaceful and joy-

ful". They will not feel the necessity to investigate the church because they are so busy.

"Next method is to invite parents to your city centre... Maybe singing songs and smiling can create a warm atmosphere."

The training manual has explicit instructions on how to react when a mother cries. "When he called his mother she cried. He came back to the centre and said I cannot move in. He could not deny the Messiah, but he could not move in because of his parents."

"I waited for a while until he became calm and I talked this way. 'Let us think what is true love. What is true love towards parents, to move in or quit Unification Church. If you quit the UC and resume school, then your parents will be happy. But how long can they be happy?'"

"If it is true that the Messiah is here and that his mission will surely be successful, then in several years the UC movement will cover America and all over the world. Sooner or later your parents will understand what the UC is. Then how will they feel if they stopped you from joining? They will regret it."

Members who go pioneer witnessing are recommended to use Holy Salt to separate them from Satan. "We sanctify or Holy Salt the new room, the new house, food, clothing, cars, bicycles, everything so we can offer them before God."

Then follow explicit instructions for making salt holy, with the direction that plain salt is better than iodized.

Members are also taught that "heavenly deception" is allowed.

But there is a lighter side to the Moon cult, which I witnessed when I went to Cleeve House, Seend, near Devizes, one of the Unification Church's residential centres. I went as an uninvited guest, posing as a friend of Mrs Diana Jones, of Northampton, Devizes, who has been campaigning for four years to get her daughter, Karen Seid, away from the cult.

The atmosphere at Cleeve House is like that of a hearty boarding school. The meals, thin slices of pork pie, rissoles and Camp Coffee, added to the illusion.

For the most part the young men have short back and sides haircuts and well scrubbed faces; the girls wear little or no make-up. They all smile, rather wide, set smiles, but the friendly overtures seem genuine and there is a gut feeling of good will and sincerity.

There are songs with guitar accompaniment before meals. I met two mothers who were content to have their children members of the church.

Mrs Alison Farrow, of Tedburn St Mary, Devon, has a son, Nicholas, aged 22, who has travelled widely with the Moonies. He was in Plymouth when he met members of the sect and telephoned his mother "to say he had found a fantastic religious group".

Mrs Farrow said: "I went to lunch with the Plymouth group and found them sweet, gentle and nice. I did not see him for



Mr Moon: "Love towards the Lord."

two years (when he was in Europe singing with the UC choir) but he still has his sense of humour. Being dedicated does not seem to have knocked it out of him. I wrote to him wherever he was.

Mrs Mary Barlow, of Streatham, London, had two children who are members of the Unification Church and have married within it. They are Richard, aged 30, and Nicola, aged 28.

She says: "They all work for evermore. They are working for a small seed and a small start. It is sacrificial. What they earn they put back into things they can all share, which is what the world does not do. The church is small here, and new. The members are keen to create centres and eventually hospitals."

"I do not think they are brainwashed, for leave for different reasons. Some join idealistically and then get bored."

"Nor are the members pressurized. Some people feel their children should be headed for a profession, but parents should not stand in the way of what their children want."

Mr and Mrs Rees, of Oxford, have a daughter, Veronica, aged 26, who is a Moonie. Mrs Rees said: "My fears are rather nameless. You get this feeling of unease. The members think they are working for God, but I think they are slaves."

"In the beginning we were terribly upset and ill. We were not allowed in the centres. Gradually I have built up their confidence, but they are wary of me."

Mrs Diana Jones, however, has seen only the dark side of the Moon sect. Her daughter, Karen Seid, now 21, was still at school when a Moon member persuaded her to join the church.

No ban on 'The Times'

Lawyers for Mr Dennis Orme, leader of the Unification Church in Britain and director of the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity, a British-registered charity, attempted in the High Court yesterday to prevent *The Times* from publishing the third of its articles

on the Unification Church, or Moon cult. Counsel for Mr Orme decided not to proceed with the application to say he had been informed by Mr Alistair Brett, a legal adviser to *Times Newspapers Ltd*, that the newspaper intended justifying those parts of the first two articles about which Mr Orme complained.

She went on to say that the conflict between the teaching of the Unification Church and Karen Seid's normal way of life had resulted in her daughter's having a severe emotional breakdown. "My daughter was continually under pressure from a girl in the same form at school while studying for A levels before university entrance", she said.

Mrs Jones has a thick file of letters to show how she has been harassed by the Home Office, the Charity Commissioners and the local police about the Unification Church.

The *Times* has evidence from parents and disaffected members of the Moon sect that Karen Seid's case is repeated, with slight variations, over and over again.

Dr James Beckford, who is a lecturer in sociology at Durham University and has made a study of the Moonies and other fringe religions, wrote in *Psychology Today* (August, 1976): "The typical recruit in this country is aged between 18 and 23, has completed at least a six-form course, comes from middle or lower-middle class background and has always had a respect for religion."

"A few of the earliest recruits here had dabbled in drug-taking and other aspects of the youth culture. But nowadays it is unlikely that recruits will have shown any prior inclination to non-conformist behaviour."

"On the other hand, it is common for young people who are having difficulties with their studies or who are finding it hard to adjust to life away from home for the first time to be easily caught up in Moon's recruiting net. They often respond eagerly to the offers of friendship and food at a family centre. Their defences may lack the resilience of people with a clearer sense of self-identity."

He adds: "... Members are virtually forbidden to remain in touch with their families and are taught to regard relatives who do try to remove them from the sect as 'Satanic'. Relations with the families are usually severed completely."

"The situation is occasionally aggravated when a recruit is persuaded to consign all his or her property over to the Unification Church. Some families have lost both persons and property to the Unification Church."

Stay over

Or how to schedule yourself some relaxation

On your way to Asia* or Australia* stopover in Malaysia. No matter how tight your schedule, it's a relaxing and inexpensive break in an arduous journey.

For as long as five days, for just £4 per night, you can discover fascinating Kuala Lumpur. Or for a little extra (airfares only) explore the sweeping beaches of Penang; or the swirling, busy, multi-cultured city of Singapore.

At the end of it all you settle back relaxed and refreshed in the roomy MAS DC-10-30 for the rest of your flight. And enjoy all over again famous MAS Golden Service.

Ask your Travel Agent or MAS office for the exclusive details of our Stopover Holidays.

*With connections at Kuala Lumpur



Fewer seats and more room than any other DC-10. And there's always someone there when you need them.



Fly with A Touch of Gold
mas
malaysian airline system

25-27, St. George St.,
Hanover Square,
London W1.
Tel: 01-629-5891/4.

Dear Times reader,
The last posting dates for Christmas mail are:

PARCELS ——— DEC 17

7p post ——— DEC 18

9p post ——— DEC 20

but it would help the postman if you could post before these dates if possible. And if you've anything large to post on December 17, or need stamps, please call at the Post Office in the morning.

Tommy Steele

P.S. Please pack parcels carefully and use the Postcode—Happy Christmas.



Royal Mail

WEST EUROPE

Strasbourg MPs' threat to reject EEC budget

From David Wood
Strasbourg, Dec 13
Assessing its co-equal power over the EEC budget for 1978, the European Parliament today threatened to precipitate a political crisis on Thursday by refusing to accept budget cuts, particularly in the regional fund.

Both the regional committee and the budget committee of the Parliament have taken a hard line against the cuts. There are to be discussions between parliamentarians and the Council of Ministers in the hope of a compromise can be found.

If the Parliament were to reject the budget, the 1977 budget would apply in 1978, and one twelfth of the total would be paid out month by month during the year, that has never happened before.

British MPs and Mr Tugendhat, the British Commissioner for the Budget, are the leading figures in the dispute. Tugendhat, in his first year as a commissioner, enlisted Parliament's support to resist cuts by the Council of Ministers earlier in the year, but he is now arguing caution.

The regional committee, led by Mr John Evans, Labour MP for Newton, voted unanimously to resist the Council cuts. The budget committee, with Mr Michael Shaw, Conservative MP for Scarborough, as rapporteur, overwhelmingly supported the regional committee, mainly because the Council was thought to be too patronising in its dealings with Parliament.

For the Council, Mr Tugendhat, its President, said that if the cuts were not accepted by Parliament there was a risk of a serious conflict. No budget would be approved before 1978 began, and all Community policies, on the year of direct elections, would become impossible, damaging the credibility of both Council and Parliament.

Mr Tugendhat, urging a compromise in the next two days, said that budget processes had reached a stage where politics took over from economics.

The episode indicates a growing spirit of political militancy within the Parliament, but a compromise looks probable.

Parliamentary report, page 8.

Madrid bomb in protest at Tenerife death

From Harry Debellus
Madrid, Dec 13
Canary Islands separatists exploded a bomb in Madrid today as demonstrators took to the streets in protest against the death of a student shot when police opened fire yesterday during disturbances on the island of Tenerife.

Riot police units arrived in the Canary Islands today to enforce a detachment of the security police and the civil guard. In Santa Cruz, the island's capital, and other towns in Tenerife police guarded government offices, newspapers and other key points.

During the tense night that followed the student's death, attackers fired from a car at a civil guard patrol car and a post near Santa Cruz.

The victim was Javier Fernandez Quesada, a psychology student who was 22. His parents arrived in Tenerife today and were expected to accompany their son's body home to Las Palmas on the neighbouring island of Gran Canaria.

The Madrid bomb caused damage at a travel agency. According to the police only one of the seven sticks of explosives it contained went off. Telephone calls to newspapers and news agencies the movement for the Autonomy and Independence of the Canary Islands claimed responsibility. The caller identified himself as Antonio Cubillo, the movement's leader.



Entente at the joint press conference: Mr Callaghan and M Giscard d'Estaing flanked by Mr Healey and M Barre.

Bonn defence adviser suspended in spy inquiry 'Du' judged not so offensive in a market

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Dec 13
Herr Georg Leber, the West German Defence Minister, opened disciplinary investigations against one of his chief advisers today as a result of the disclosure that vital military secrets had been passed, allegedly by ministry employees, to East Germany.

The adviser, Dr Herbert Lamb, head of the ministry's personnel and welfare department, requested the investigation himself. He has been suspended while it is carried out.

The contents of more than 1,000 top secret documents are believed to have been betrayed, including full details about the state and structure of the West German armed forces, their strategy and crisis plans, and their own knowledge about the Warsaw Pact forces. The documents also included important NATO secrets.

Dr Lamb's former secretary, Frau Renate Lutz, was allegedly the main figure in the ring. She is said to have had the key to Dr Lamb's safe and to have known the combination of the ministry's strongbox where top secret documents were kept. She allegedly had the documents photocopied on ministry machines.

Frau Lutz, her husband, Herr Lothar-Erwin Lutz, and Herr Jurgen Wiesel, also ministry employees, were arrested 18 months ago. They are expected to go on trial next year.

Many questions have been raised in the press about how such serious espionage could have gone on in Dr Lamb's office. Why, commentators wanted to know, does the personnel chief need to have top military and strategic secrets and for what reason should his secretary, although cleared by security, have access to them?

Herr Leber made it clear at a press conference today that he did not propose to resign over the affair. He said Frau Lutz was taken on during his predecessor's time and was caught during his own.

The minister said that the publication of the secret report on the spy ring's activities by the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* yesterday was "a second case of treason" which was as serious as that of the spies. The fact that the ministry was aware of what secrets had been passed on was of importance to the recipients.

He said he had opened investigations to discover who had passed the report, which was classified as secret, to the newspaper.

Herr Leber said that NATO had been told about the ring's activities in July of last year after the trial was arrested. NATO was not happy about such things, but he said that spy cases were part of the daily work in defence matters. NATO's strategy had not been changed, but the alliance had "drawn the consequences" from the case.

The minister will report to the parliamentary defence committee tomorrow and the Bundestag (Lower House) will also debate the issue briefly then.

Dr Manfred Wörner, the committee's chairman, claimed the minister had committed a "severe affront to Parliament" by speaking about the affair to the press first. Herr Leber's way of doing this was "not to be tolerated".

Fleeting their political muscles for tomorrow's fray, opposition spokesmen accused Herr Leber of trying to play down serious espionage and said they would be pitiless towards the minister in their demands for a complete explanation.

Herr Leber was also accused of having deliberately kept the magnitude of the case secret when the three were arrested in 1976 so as not to spoil his Social Democrat party's chances in the general election that year. His silence was a "huge piece of electoral fraud", one spokesman said.

Admonished that she should refer to him as "Herr Heubusch" and "Sie" Frau Heubusch retorted: "I call the Lord God Du and I will go on calling you Du as long as I like."

Showing a greater feeling for the law than a sense of humour, the policeman reported Frau Heubusch for "defamation of an official". And in the same spirit a court sentenced her last year to a DM2,250 (£500) fine. An appeal court upheld the sentence.

Frau Heubusch was somewhat mollified today, however, when yet another court, ordered by the Bavarian High Court to review the proceedings, came round partly to her point of view.

To insist on calling Police Officer Heubusch Du even after being warned without doubt an insult, it said, but on the other hand Du was the common form of address in the picturesque language of market women such as Frau Heubusch.

And the policeman was not entirely without blame, it added. He had seen fit to warn Frau Heubusch that if she did not watch her language "someone would slap her cheeky mouth". All in all it decided there were mitigating circumstances, and the fine should be reduced by a third to DM1,500.

But that is not the end of it. Frau Heubusch's lawyer said she will appeal against this decision and demand that the fine be reduced to nil.

French left's leaders exchange invective

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Dec 13
M. Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, said on television today that if the left won the election in March, it had a duty to govern.

"If other parties refuse to do so," he added, in an allusion to the Communists, "the Socialist Party will shoulder its responsibilities. It means to govern within the framework of the Union of the Left, to apply the common programme. The party that would not wish to do so would deceive the voters."

He would not compromise with the right. If the left did not win, the Socialist Party would "continue to be a great opposition party, the greatest opposition party in France."

At a public meeting at Saint-Brieuc, in Brittany last night, he said: "Naturally one can wait until 1983. But in what state shall we be next time? Only those who do not suffer from the left can speak in this way, those who prefer to serve this or that faction, this or that party. The Socialist Party refuses in advance to serve its own interests. It is ready to serve the whole left. He who will divide it will destroy himself."

Temperatures continue to rise between Socialists and Communists as the controversy over policy is turning to invective. At a press conference last weekend, M. Mitterrand wondered whether the Communist Party was not the victim of a "resurgence of Stalinist spirit".

It wanted to obtain so much that it would have nothing in the end.

Not to be outdone, M. Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, said that M. Mitterrand had lost his self-control. "This is frequent with him on the eve of decisive events." There was only one key to victory at the polls, that held by the people. What the Socialist Party proposed was not a socialist society, but social democratic crisis management at the expense of the workers, and for the benefit of his capital.

"It is Georges Marchais who lacks self control," M. Mitterrand retorted.

M. Roland Leroy, the editor in chief of the Communist organ, *L'Humanite*, and secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party, said today that "not only can contacts be resumed immediately with the Socialist Party, but an agreement can be concluded at any moment. It need only return to its undertakings of 1972, and consequently accept the updating of the common programme as we have proposed."

But the truest word came from M. Edouard Faïon, the veteran Communist leader. "Union is not an idyl but a struggle," he wrote in the weekly *Cahiers du Communiste*.

Nine all at sea over butter ships

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, Dec 13
EEC agriculture ministers today sanctioned the continuing operation of a remarkable loophole in Community regulations whereby several million West Germans have been getting butter at a third of the normal price by taking boat trips from Bonn to Rotterdam.

The pleasure steamers go out beyond the three-mile limit, at which point EEC butter can be "exported to the passengers with the aid of the special subsidy used to bring the price of Community food exports down to the generally lower world level."

The ministers ruled that the loophole can continue at least until the end of 1979, although the amount of butter a passenger can purchase has been reduced to one kilo (2.2lb) a trip, from up to five kilos.

In principle, there is no reason why similar cut-price deals should not be operated out of British ports, but Mr John Silkin, the Minister for Agriculture, said that he did not think it would be economically attractive at the moment.

Continued from page 1

trouble is no secret but it has been completely revised and squadrons are being replaced all the time. In one exercise with modified tanks there was only a 2 per cent failure rate. During this year's exercise the only breakdown was expected engine failures. However, modification has caused a big increase in the number of spare parts, which obviously affected spare availability.

Armoured personnel carriers: The present APC FV432, was designed for the end of 1979, although the amount of transport will be reduced to one kilo (2.2lb) a trip, from up to five kilos.

In principle, there is no reason why similar cut-price deals should not be operated out of British ports, but Mr John Silkin, the Minister for Agriculture, said that he did not think it would be economically attractive at the moment.

Comment: A contract for a prototype MCV has just been awarded. No decision has been taken about whether it should be amphibious, but senior officers say river-crossing by APCs is seldom required.

Comment: Front-line ammunition is so scarce that officers believe they would have no more than three days' supply once hostilities start. Yet there is no evidence that more could be transported from Britain even if it could be produced in time.

Comment: The allegation is groundless. Since all the ammunition supplies remain secret, it is understood that they exist for at least 30 days.

Comment: It has been reduced in line with the reduction in ammunition. Tank crews have been told that they will have to rely on one bomb left and the rest of the supply vehicle, the five-ton Stalwart, is allocated at the rate of only two to an 18-tank squadron, although each armoured regiment will be supported by a squadron of Stalwarts operated by the Royal Corps of Transport.

Comment: The Army has been told that it will receive the new Chieftain range of tanks, but not until the mid-1980s, since all the tanks being built are being exported to the Middle East and Africa.

Comment: The Chieftain is a whole new system of communication and is not being installed all at once, since modifications are considered necessary as it evolves. The authorities say that the only latest modification is installed.

Shortcomings in BAOR weapons 'harm morale'

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, Dec 13
The European Commission has agreed in principle to protect songbirds throughout the Community, but some small differences of view remain.

Working on a proposal from the European Commission, the ministers last night agreed to take special measures to protect the habitats of species threatened with extinction or seriously declining in numbers, restrict the shooting of birds for sport and to prohibit a long list of hunting and catching techniques.

Final agreement has still to be reached on a list of birds which can be kept live for sale, but it is hoped that this can be settled at the level of officials without waiting for another meeting of environment ministers. Those meetings take place only about twice a year.

One effect of the directive, once it is adopted, would be to restrict the number of species that can be shot for sport. Of these, only 20 could be hunted anywhere in the Community, hunting of the rest would be restricted to certain countries.

Excluded from the ban on hunting would be such species as geese, pheasant, partridge, grouse and woodcock, which are generally recognized as game birds. Killing of magpies, sparrows, rooks, starlings and other birds regarded as pests would also be permitted provided they were not totally exterminated.

Among the methods of bird hunting and capture that would be prohibited are: snares, lime, the use of mutilated live birds as decoys, explosives, semi-automatic weapons (that is, those capable of firing more than two rounds), poisoned bait, nets, traps and electrifying devices.

A breakthrough in last night's discussions came when the Italians agreed to include penguins, sparrows, larks and a small number of other song birds among the species which cannot be shot for sport. Hunting is big business in Italy, where 270m was spent last year on 1,200m shotgun cartridges.

Other countries, among them Britain, argued that to allow hunting of these small song birds would mean in effect a licence to shoot anything smaller than a thrush, since at a distance it would be impossible to tell one bird from another.

The Commission submitted its proposals about a year ago on the basis of a scientific study which showed that some 60 of the 400 or so species of wild birds in the Community are threatened with extinction, and a further 220 declining in numbers, in some cases very rapidly.

OVERSEAS

Mr Vance fails to win Syrian support for Sadat peace moves

Damascus, Dec 13.—Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, failed to enlist Syrian support for the current Middle East peace moves during a lengthy meeting with President Assad here tonight.

An official Syrian statement said President Assad had firmly rejected any involvement in President Sadat's peace initiative with Israel and the Cairo conference which began last morning. Mr Assad told Mr Vance that the Egyptian leader's policy had wrecked all efforts towards reaching a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Syria will continue to work with other Arab countries to confront the dangerous situation created by Mr Sadat's peace moves.

After almost three hours of talks with President Assad, Mr Vance told reporters they had exchanged their respective points of view and had agreed to confer again whenever necessary.

In those talks Mr Vance sought to reassure Syria that American backing for the Cairo conference did not mean it had abandoned the search for a comprehensive Middle East settlement.

Soon after he reached the Syrian capital, Mr Vance told reporters that the United States is firmly committed to a just, durable and comprehensive settlement.

He was given a perfunctory greeting by Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, and then driven without further ado into the city.

Our Special Correspondent writes from Jerusalem: It was not long before Mr Vance was in the city, where he was met by a large crowd of anti-Zionist Jewish sect, Neturei Karta, would allow the latest dramatic developments in the Middle East to pass without making its voice heard.

The ultra-orthodox Jews of Neturei Karta are known for their hostility to the Jewish state, which they regard as a blasphemy because in their view the land of Israel is to be returned to the Jews only by God acting through the Messiah.

They have put forward a six-point peace plan which calls for the creation of a "national government" composed of three Jews, three Arabs and three "United Nations" appointees who will be neither Jews nor Arabs. This government is to be based on any division of territory between them.

Neighbouring countries may seek to establish a confederation of Middle East states, or simply to join our country.

The possession of firearms in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

Spassky's blunder costs game

Belgrade, Dec 13.—A blunder by Boris Spassky, cost him the eighth round chess match against Viktor Korchnoi tonight and he is now losing 2-6 in the 20-game contest to decide who will challenge Anatoly Karpov, the world champion.

Spassky, who took advantage at the adjournment, drew gasps of dismay from the crowd with his fifty-first move. Fifteen moves later the game was over. These were the moves of the game.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

Spassky white, Korchnoi black: French defence.

OVERSEAS

Rhodes talks re critical

Damascus, Dec 13.—Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, failed to enlist Syrian support for the current Middle East peace moves during a lengthy meeting with President Assad here tonight.

An official Syrian statement said President Assad had firmly rejected any involvement in President Sadat's peace initiative with Israel and the Cairo conference which began last morning. Mr Assad told Mr Vance that the Egyptian leader's policy had wrecked all efforts towards reaching a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Syria will continue to work with other Arab countries to confront the dangerous situation created by Mr Sadat's peace moves.

After almost three hours of talks with President Assad, Mr Vance told reporters they had exchanged their respective points of view and had agreed to confer again whenever necessary.

In those talks Mr Vance sought to reassure Syria that American backing for the Cairo conference did not mean it had abandoned the search for a comprehensive Middle East settlement.

Soon after he reached the Syrian capital, Mr Vance told reporters that the United States is firmly committed to a just, durable and comprehensive settlement.

He was given a perfunctory greeting by Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, and then driven without further ado into the city.

Our Special Correspondent writes from Jerusalem: It was not long before Mr Vance was in the city, where he was met by a large crowd of anti-Zionist Jewish sect, Neturei Karta, would allow the latest dramatic developments in the Middle East to pass without making its voice heard.

The ultra-orthodox Jews of Neturei Karta are known for their hostility to the Jewish state, which they regard as a blasphemy because in their view the land of Israel is to be returned to the Jews only by God acting through the Messiah.

They have put forward a six-point peace plan which calls for the creation of a "national government" composed of three Jews, three Arabs and three "United Nations" appointees who will be neither Jews nor Arabs. This government is to be based on any division of territory between them.

Neighbouring countries may seek to establish a confederation of Middle East states, or simply to join our country.

The possession of firearms in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

UN aid: The General Assembly voted in the new state would be strictly controlled, and any potential flashpoint for Jewish-Arab conflict policed by a UN-appointed force.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR TRAIN SERVICES

For full details of train times and fares please ask at principal stations or agents, or ring your local telephone enquiry office.

DEC	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	JAN	1	2	3
	Many additional trains will run to augment existing services.													
	Normal Saturday service with some reduced late evening services and no overnight services.													
	No service, except for certain Glasgow suburban services.													
	Special Boxing Day service on certain routes from about 10.00 hrs - no overnight services. See special leaflet.													
	Southern Region - reduced Sunday service													
	Other Regions - weekday service with reduced peak hour services													
	Weekday service with reduced peak hour services.													
	Normal Saturday service - no overnight services.													
	Scottish Region - no service (except for certain Glasgow Suburban services) and no overnight Anglo-Scottish services.													
	Other Regions - Sunday service, but no Anglo-Scottish services.													
	Southern Region - reduced Sunday service													
	Other Regions - weekday service with reduced peak hour services													
	Scottish Region - reduced weekday service													
	Other Regions - normal services.													

1977 Beaujolais proves just above average

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 13
The 1977 Beaujolais was unveiled in Paris last night as a mediocre youngster by comparison with its 1976 brother, but selling at prices 10 to 12 per cent higher.

This year's vintage, according to the growers, has been saved from disaster by a warm and sunny autumn. The total harvest will produce about 120 million bottles with quality perhaps slightly above average.

The 475 galleons barrels of the ordinary Beaujolais were sold for £125 each. Beaujolais villages cost £165 and the crus started at £287 a barrel. A bottle of Beaujolais villages will sell for about £1.10 in France, slightly above the price paid last year, even though the wine is of a poorer quality than last year.

EEC acts to protect songbirds

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Dec 13
Common rules for the protection of the EEC's threatened bird population have been agreed in principle by environment ministers of the Nine, although some small differences of view remain.

Working on a proposal from the European Commission, the ministers last night agreed to take special measures to protect the habitats of species threatened with extinction or seriously declining in numbers, restrict the shooting of birds for sport and to prohibit a long list of hunting and catching techniques.

Final agreement has still to be reached on a list of birds which can be kept live for sale, but it is hoped that this can be settled at the level of officials without waiting for another meeting of environment ministers. Those meetings take place only about twice a year.

West Germans said to be testing missiles in Zaire

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Dec 13
West Germany is secretly testing Cruise and intermediate range ballistic missiles over 100,000 square miles area of south-eastern Zaire, according to extracts from an article due to be published in *Penthouse* magazine next March.

The author, Mr Tad Sule, a usually reliable American diplomatic correspondent, says that the testing programme is in "deliberate disregard" of the 1964 Treaty of Brussels, which states that the signatories are to refrain from testing nuclear weapons in the territory of any of the other signatories.

A Central Intelligence Agency spokesman denied any involvement by his organisation.

According to Mr Sule, the testing is being directed by the Orbital Launch and Rocket Corporation, which he describes as a "mysteriously tax-exempt company based near Frankfurt", which may be receiving as much as \$300m (£170m) worth of financial support from the West German military budget.

The company has signed a non-cancellable 24-year contract under which it has virtual sovereignty over the Sabaot province area of 77,000 sq km, which it has agreed to pay the country \$50m a year, Mr Sule says.

Concorde within New York noise limits, experts find

From David Cross
Washington, Dec 13
The Concorde was considerably quieter during its first nine days of landings and take-offs at Kennedy airport, in New York, than it has been at Dulles airport, outside Washington, the American Transportation Department said today.

The department disclosed that 103 complaints about Concorde were received from members of the public in the New York area.

The Federal Aviation Administration, which is monitoring the environmental impact of the Concorde, found the effective perceived noise level at Howard Beach, the closest monitoring point to most of the take-offs, averaged 96.7 decibels, compared with an average of 119.4 decibels at Dulles during Concorde's 12-month trial there.

On approaches to Kennedy the noise level averaged 96.6 decibels, as against 116.5 at Dulles. The landings, and take-offs during November were all comfortably within the limit of 105 decibels set by the local authorities.

Our Air Correspondent writes: Officials at the British High Commission in Kuala Lumpur are hoping to meet Malaysian Government officials tomorrow in an attempt to persuade them to lift the ban on flights by Concorde through Malaysia's airspace to Singapore. Malaysia's perceived noise level at Howard Beach, the closest monitoring point to most of the take-offs, averaged 96.7 decibels, compared with an average of 119.4 decibels at Dulles during Concorde's 12-month trial there.

Banking and Finance in Latin America

The two maps published in yesterday's Special Edition of *Banking and Finance in Latin America* were provided by Euro-money. Mr Nigel Brown, who wrote one of the articles in the report, is on the staff of Euro-money.

Correction

A report from Geneva on Monday (December 12) stated that the previous day's deficit, owed by the 45 Concorde flights, had totalled about \$280,000m. The correct figure is \$20,000m.

Watches

ROLEX

When we're worth Agents for all At usual credit Our expertise For FREE colour address and The Publicity 1 Old B

OVERSEAS

Rhodesian settlement talks reach a critical stage today

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, Dec 13

Settlement talks between the Rhodesian Government and three internally based nationalist movements are expected to reach a critical stage tomorrow when the four parties meet for the fourth round of discussions in the present series.

Sources close to the conference said that tomorrow's meeting could determine whether sufficient agreement had been reached for the conference to be dissolved into separate committees to discuss points of detail, or whether the talks were going to stall on the white government's insistence on a "blocking amendment" in a future national assembly.

According to these sources, Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, is demanding that whites should hold 45 out of the 127 seats in a new national assembly elected on the basis of one man, one vote. He is also insisting that elections should be based on separate black and white voters rolls. The remaining 84 seats in the assembly would be held by blacks elected by an exclusively black electorate.

Two of the nationalist groups taking part—the United African National Council (UANC) led by Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the African National Council (ANC) headed by the Rev Nkomo—have been unhappy about the racial basis for such a blocking mechanism. A leading member of the UANC delegation at the talks said today that Mr Smith was trying to gain the approval of the white electorate as a result of the present negotiations.

Government sources, however, insist that Mr Smith cannot give way on his demand for a blocking amendment to gain the approval of the white electorate as any settlement achieved as a result of the present negotiations.

It is the only genuine safeguard we can have for," the source said. "Any other written guarantee can be torn up immediately after independence as happened in other African countries."

Conference sources remain optimistic that the "blocking amendment" will not prove insurmountable. If this issue

can be resolved, they point out, then agreement should be relatively easy on most of the other constitutional safeguards being sought by the whites, except perhaps the question of the armed forces.

According to a nationalist source, the Rhodesian Government has put forward a list of eight constitutional safeguards for approval by the nationalists. Four have been agreed. Differences of opinion have been expressed on another three but these are likely to be resolved tomorrow. Only on the eighth, the "blocking third", is there open disagreement.

The safeguards include a Bill of Rights, an independent judiciary, career safeguards for civil servants and members of the armed forces, a guarantee on pensions and a limited right to dual citizenship.

At the moment, matters relating to the role of the security forces have been referred to the question of career safeguards for white regular soldiers. Controversial questions such as the disbandment of certain units or the inclusion of guerrillas in the existing forces have not been raised.

According to nationalist sources, if broad agreement is reached on a number of committees will be set up to discuss detailed aspects of the constitutional proposals. One committee has already been formed and is to discuss whether the voting age should be set at 18 or 21. Bishop Muzorewa and Mr Nkomo both support an age limit of 18. Mr Nkomo, however, has insisted that the United People's Organisation (Zuplo) wants the age limit to be 21.

Once the committees have completed their work, a draft constitution would be drawn up. This would then be presented for approval to the existing electorate either through a referendum or a general election. The next stage would be the holding of one-man, one-vote elections.

The Rhodesian authorities have not under their control and the United States would be prepared to send observers to ensure that such elections were freely and fairly undertaken.

UN call for mandatory oil embargo on S Africa

By David Soman's Diplomatic Correspondent

After hearing new evidence that the South African subsidiaries of the five western oil companies, accused of sanctions breaking in Rhodesia—Mobil, Caltex, Total, Shell, and BP—are still supplying oil to Rhodesia, the United Nations General Assembly has decided to call for a mandatory oil embargo against South Africa.

The vote, taken on Monday night, was 112-0 with 10 abstentions, including the five Western members of the Security Council. The resolution now goes to the General Assembly.

According to confidential information recently given to the United Nations committee, much of the oil is being transported by the oil companies' subsidiaries, either directly or through intermediary companies, to a storage depot at Messina, 10 miles south of the Rhodesian-South African border.

It is then sent across the Beit Bridge border point into Rhodesia by road and rail by all five of the South African companies.

The information comes from a report to the Four Committee made by the Haslemere group, a study group in London which has been working on the material available on Rhodesian oil supplies.

The five Western oil companies in South Africa, the Haslemere report adds, cooperate extremely closely. On the last Thursday a feast month they came together in what is known as the "industry meeting", at which matters discussed include the sale of oil to Rhodesia. The meeting is chaired by the South African subsidiary of British Petroleum.

The British Government has viewed the alleged sanction breaking on oil with concern, but has up to now taken a fairly cautious attitude.

The oil companies themselves have maintained that their subsidiaries in South Africa are not under their control and the United States would be prepared to send observers to ensure that such elections were freely and fairly undertaken.

Why former Prime Minister is prepared to risk a martyr's death King of Nepal shows he sees need for reform

From Richard Wigg Kathmandu, Dec 13

No one I could find in Kathmandu seems ready to believe that Mr B. P. Koirala, Nepal's social democratic former Prime Minister, will be executed if he is found guilty at his forthcoming trial before a special tribunal on charges of treason and one of sedition.

But the veteran leader of the banned Nepali Congress, by returning home last month from New York in the middle of critical treatment for throat cancer, has made it clear that he is prepared to risk a martyr's death in order to gain at least a moral victory in his struggle to restore parliamentary democracy to Nepal after almost 17 years of the panchayat system of indirect election government under King Birendra.

King Birendra does not have time on his side, as Mr Koirala calculated when he decided not to leave Nepal politics when the King released him last June after seven months' arrest and helped finance his journey for treatment abroad.

An American doctor in Kathmandu who has been allowed to see or examine him personally has set January or February as the latest time for Mr Koirala's return to New York for a second operation.

The best scenario from the King's standpoint would appear to be a quick trial in the next few weeks, followed by a royal pardon, and then swift dispatch of Mr Koirala abroad again. His trial is being watched closely, not only in India where important elements of the Janata Government dragged on, but by Herr Willy Brandt, President of the Socialist International, and one assumes for its essential human rights aspect, by President Carter. His possible death, the King has said, would be a dangerous step backwards for the regime.

In a year which has seen political upheavals affecting all of his neighbours, the King has shown that he senses the panchayat system is in need of reform. Nepal since 1975 has had its single official political movement, the "Back to the village" national campaign. This experiment in organic democracy, which has been enthusiastically represented by established interests unable to adapt to change, hence the King's public call for an injection of genuine popular participation.

The King has been releasing Nepali political prisoners, including some prominent Opposition figures, so that there

are now estimated to be about 100 left behind bars.

Nepal's middle class is very small—agriculture still accounts for 90 per cent of all jobs—and the teachers, university students, lawyers and engineers who provide what is both a generation and a political protest against the system face repression quite as tough as in India during Mrs Gandhi's emergency.

In Kathmandu on the night of Mrs Gandhi's spectacular defeat in the March general election, thousands of homes stayed tuned in throughout the night to All-India Radio. The Nepalese elections in four administrative zones at about the same time passed unnoticed.

Mr Koirala's followers say they intend to prepare during the next six months for a campaign of Gandhian non-violent protest. So do some more left-wing and younger groups.

Dissent here is weak from an organizational point of view. That is natural under a regime that has banned parties and trade unions and where the national literacy rate is about 15 per cent. But Mr Koirala, branded as a survivor from the decade of the failed politicians, could hardly have become a catalyst if the country was genuinely contented with the regime.

A return to parliamentary government would perhaps not solve Nepal's economic problems, but neither has the panchayat system. Between 1967 and 1975 (the latest period for any reliable figures) the average real growth in Nepal's gross domestic product, of 2.2 per cent a year, was absorbed by an identical registered population increase.

The gross national product per capita remained about £51. The diet of more of the poor dropped below subsistence levels, and 56 per cent of all Nepalese were of children under five.

Well informed people in Kathmandu differ as to whether King Birendra is all powerful within the system or, as the phrase goes, he has difficulties within the palace. Instigating the Koirala trial was the work of the hardliners, those who stand to lose more if the King should decide to open the system by some relaxation on civil liberties.

The Koirala trial, and the keen international interest aroused, limit the King's immediate options, but the basic choices remain his as an absolute monarch and the Nepalese Army appears both loyal and obedient.

Mrs Castle advised to drop case of jailed nurse

Bangkok, Dec 13.—A former Thai Prime Minister today urged Mrs Barbara Castle, Labour MP for Blackburn, not to become involved in the case of Miss Rita Nightingale, one of her constituents, who was jailed for 20 years last week for heroin smuggling, while an appeal is pending.

Mrs Castle had said after she heard of the sentence that she believed Miss Nightingale, a 24-year-old nurse, was innocent.

Mr Kukrit Pramo said in the Siam Rath newspaper that he had sympathy for Miss Nightingale and for British officials in Bangkok, whom Mrs Castle has asked to ensure that she is being properly treated in jail.

Miss Nightingale was jailed after being found guilty of trying to smuggle heroin through Bangkok to Europe last March. Her lawyers said they would appeal for her release.

Mr Kukrit, who was Prime Minister from March, 1975, until April last year, wrote: "Mrs Castle is entitled to her opinion, but as the Thai court has handed down the sentence and the matter is still under appeal, the matter should be left alone."

He said Mrs Castle's request for action through the British Embassy to check prison conditions under which Miss Nightingale is held "sounds as if we are still in the era of extra-territorial rights, which were revoked a long time ago."

Mr Kukrit was referring to exemption from Thai legal action which was granted to foreigners in Thailand under treaties with the big powers signed in the mid-nineteenth century. All such treaties were revoked by 1925.

He had sympathy for Mrs Castle. "When there are requests for help from her voters, she just has to play the game," he said.—Reuter.

Chinese press told to stop official reprints

From David Bonavia Hongkong, Dec 3

The Chinese official press has vowed to discontinue the practice of reproducing itself with numerous reprints of politically significant articles in different publications.

The Peking party organ Kwangming Daily has condemned the reproduction of officially sponsored articles in central and provincial newspapers and specialized journals and magazines, which has been common practice until now.

In one issue of the medical journal, 60 per cent of its contents were reproduced from newspapers and periodicals run by the central authorities, the newspaper said, blaming this practice on the so-called "gang of four" led by Chiang Ching, Chairman Mao's widow.

"There are hundreds of periodicals throughout the country, and the waste resulting from reproduction is staggering," it added.

Nun finds head of kidnap victim

Quito, Dec 13.—The head of an Ecuador businessman kidnapped 13 days ago was found in the grounds of a church college here today, police said.

The head was wrapped in a plastic bag inside a box found by a nun. The rest of the body has not been found.—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Britain to protest over atrocities in Cambodia

By Hugh Noyes Parliamentary Correspondent Westminster

The Government has at last decided to protest against atrocities in Cambodia by raising the matter at the next meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in February.

Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who announced the decision in the Lords on Monday, said that such practices should be condemned and exposed. He hoped that there would be support from Britain's friends and allies.

As more and more horrifying reports of Cambodian atrocities have been reaching the West from refugees escaping across the border into Thailand, Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, has come under increasing pressure to raise the matter in the forum of the United Nations.

Lord Goronwy-Roberts also announced that the Government hoped to make an increased contribution of £750,000 towards the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in helping 88,000 South-east Asian refugees in Thailand.

This aid would be subject to parliamentary approval and will be in addition to the £400,000 already pledged for next year. Those in Thailand resettlement camps are 73,000 Laotians, 14,000 Cambodians and 1,000 Vietnamese.

Lord Goronwy-Roberts told the Lords that Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, had agreed to admit refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia who had previous connections with Britain. A quota of 115 "small boat" refugees from Vietnam would be accepted and additional numbers from Laos and Cambodia would be considered.

Anglican schismatics in search of a bishop

From Patrick Brogan Washington, Dec 13

Early next month a convocation of the Anglican schismatics will be held to elect a new bishop, the Anglican Church in North America. Its members claim that the Episcopal Church has betrayed its mission by ordaining women into the priesthood and by permitting various other innovations.

Those in Britain who deplore with some candour over the actions of the Lord's Prayer might be startled at some of the American versions. There is a seminar there training priests, men and women, to rehearse the Episcopal Church's new mission. "Our mother, our Mother in Heaven..."

This same institution, possibly because David danced before the Lord, thinks that the prayer book is rendered as a *pag de danc*. They dance it, in mixed couples, wearing long white robes to set the proper tone.

Conservatives have other objections. They say the church is going in the Episcopal Church here. They oppose the lifting of the ban on the remarriage in church of divorced people, and the ordination of homosexuals to the priesthood.

Durban home of banned Indian leader fired on

From Our Correspondent Johannesburg, Dec 13

At least 12 people were killed in an attack last night on the Durban home of Mrs Fatima Meer, the banned Indian leader and sociologist, the police said today.

The family's two cars were set ablaze and a house guest was badly wounded in the shoulder by shotgun fire.

The outrage was the latest in a series involving banned people.

Baluchi leaders demand restoration of rights

From Our Correspondent Islamabad, Dec 13

Mr Ghous Bux Bizenjo, the former governor of Baluchistan, and two other Baluchi leaders of the outlawed National Awami Party, who were recently granted release on bail by a special court, have refused to leave prison until the martial law authorities agree to reverse the consequences of the military operations carried out from 1973 by Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister.

The two other leaders who declined to be released until Baluchi grievances are redressed are Mr Khair Bux Marri and Mr Gul Khan Naseer. The special court, which was set up in 1975 by Mr Bhutto to try 45 people, mainly leaders of the National Awami Party, who had been accused of alleged anti-state activities in 1973, granted bail last week to 14 of the accused, including

Khan Abdul Wali Khan, president of the party.

A statement issued by Mr Mahmud Aziz Kurd, a former member of the Senate, on behalf of Mr Bizenjo said he had met the Baluchi leader in Hyderabad jail last Saturday. Mr Bizenjo reportedly said that during military operations on the order of Mr Bhutto's Government, "hundreds of men, women and children were killed, numerous villages were destroyed, thousands of people were uprooted, a large number were forced to abandon their homes and seek refuge in other parts of the country or go into hiding or flee across the border, and many were put behind bars."

Although the Bhutto regime was no longer in power, Mr Bizenjo said, people in Baluchistan remained uprooted and those who had abandoned their homes were still destitute. Many were still in hiding and others were in jail.

Eight die in fire

Providence, Rhode Island, Dec 13.—Fire swept through a dormitory at Providence College early today, killing at least eight women students. Fourteen were injured, three seriously.

Train kills 11

Denizli, Turkey, Dec 13.—Eleven people were killed and six injured when the minibus in which they were travelling was hit by a goods train on a crossing near here last night.

Second stage of Falklands meeting opens

From Our Own Correspondent New York, Dec 13

The second stage of the latest round of negotiations on the Falkland Islands began here today. Mr Edward Rowlands, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, went to the Argentine consulate for talks with Captain Oscar Allara, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Argentina.

The talks, which are expected to last three days, follow up the meeting between the two sides in Rome in July, when for the first time the question of transferring the sovereignty of the islands to Argentina was formally discussed.

Britain is anxious to get rid of the islands of all its remaining colonial possessions, but will not do so without the agreement of the 1,905 inhabitants, who want to stay British.

Thus the most important stage of the present initiative will come when Mr Rowlands goes to Rio de Janeiro on Sunday to meet Falkland Islands representatives. That is when he will seek their agreement to any formula he and Captain Allara might draw up this week.

Wary crew used Salyut's back door

Moscow, Dec 13.—The Soyuz 26 cosmonauts entered the Salyut 6 space laboratory by the back door because they suspected the main docking entrance was being watched by the Soviet crew, it was explained on Moscow radio today.

Lieutenant-Colonel Yuri Romanenko and Mr Georgy Grechko, who were said to be enjoying a day of "active rest" today, decided to use the alternate docking entry when the Soyuz capsule linked up with the previously unused Salyut on Sunday.

In the broadcast, Mr Konstantin Feoktistov, a space scientist, said: "The first docking device was found to be suspicious and the decision was taken to dock at the other end."

The two docking entrances on Salyut increased the reliability and safety of the space stations and would allow ground control to launch resupply or rescue crews in case of need.

Improvements to Salyut 6 to make it more comfortable for the orbiting cosmonauts and to accommodate new scientific equipment were described in the broadcast.

Mr Feoktistov said a new drinking water recycling system, first tested experimentally on Salyut 4, was now a regular feature on Salyut 6, along with an experimental shower-bath.

The shower, in a sealed compartment, used a flow of air to direct weightless water droplets over a bathing cosmonaut and out the bottom. A special filter separated the water and the air for recirculation in the space ship's systems.

By 2 pm Moscow time today (1100 GMT) the Salyut 6 had completed 1,188 orbits around Earth. 34 of them with the Soyuz 26 crew on board, according to Tass. It was orbiting Earth every 91.4 minutes at between 208.4 miles and 225.5 miles and at an orbital inclination of 51.6 degrees.

All systems were functioning normally, the news agency said.

UPI.

Kenya police release Mr Odinga

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, Dec 13

Mr Odinga Odinga, who was Vice-President of Kenya from 1964 to 1966, and who was detained from 1966 to 1971 after his short-lived opposition party had been banned, was freed from police custody here today after being held since Saturday night.

He was arrested at a meeting of a welfare society of his Luo tribe, with 17 other Kenyans, all of whom were subsequently released. Mr Odinga said today he had been held by the police under investigation on an allegation of uttering threats to kill, amounting to a breach of the peace.

It was the second time within a week that police had broken up a meeting in Nairobi addressed by Mr Odinga. Mr Odinga announced earlier this year that he was returning to the political arena, and would run for office in the ruling Kenya African National Union. The party elections were subsequently postponed.

OAU tries to mediate in Sudan-Ethiopia dispute

Freeport, Dec 13.—President Stevens of Sierra Leone

appealed last night to Ethiopia and Sudan to show "flexibility, maturity and an attitude of mutual accommodation" in order to ensure success for the Organisation of African Unity's mediation committee meeting here.

Welcoming delegations from 11 African nations before the meeting began under the chairmanship of Mr Abdul Centeh, the Sierra Leone Foreign Minister, Mr Stevens called on President Nimeiry of Sudan and Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of Ethiopia's ruling military council, to avoid recourse to "the distracting influences of external forces" in settling their dispute.

The OAU had been criticized "and not without reason" for its inability or unwillingness to dispense "even-handed justice," Mr Stevens said. "These criticisms are again going to be tested or confirmed by the outcome of your deliberations here."

Mr Peter Onu, the OAU assistant secretary-general, said the dispute centred on complaints by Ethiopia that Sudan was harbouring Eritrean secessionist guerrillas—whose success the Ethiopians blame on Sudanese aid—and on Sudan's complaint that Ethiopia has given sanctuary to subversive elements implicated in the attempted coup against President Nimeiry in 1976.

Rome, Dec 13.—Eritrean rebels and Ethiopian troops are locked in fierce street battles for control of the Red Sea port of Massawa, according to a statement issued here by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front.

Addis Ababa, Dec 13.—A total of 26 Somali insurgents fighting to reclaim territory from Ethiopia were killed and more than 100 wounded in recent security operations in Ethiopia's eastern province of Harrarghe, it was reported here today.—Agence France-Presse and Reuter.

Watches of Switzerland Ltd
FOR
ROLEX

We have a fine collection of Rolex Oyster watches... including this Datejust, worn by so many of the world's leaders in so many fields of activity. People who buy the Rolex Oyster expect superb craftsmanship, and they get it. Whichever Oyster you choose, you'll know that, inside and out, it's a remarkable example of the watchmaker's craft. Come and see our Rolex collection soon.

Rolex Oyster Perpetual Datejust, in 18k gold or stainless steel, with matching bracelet. Guaranteed waterproof to a depth of 100 feet. With Officially Certified Chronometer self-winding movement.

Watches of Switzerland Ltd

London 18 New Bond Street, W1Y 9PF
278 Regent Street, W1A 1PP
Swiss Centre, 4 Waterloo Street, W1V 4BJ
28 Royal Exchange, EC3V 3LP
14/15 Pall Mall, London, EC2R 3EJ
Birmingham 125 New Street, B2 4JH
Bournemouth 6 Western Road, BH1 2BH
Bristol 48 Broad Street, BS1 4JH
Cardiff 15 Market Hill, CF2 3HP
Cardiff 12 High Street, CF1 2AX
Edinburgh 127A Princes Street, EH2 4AD

Exeter 48 High Street, EX4 3JJ
Glasgow 64 Argyll Arcade, G2 8BG
Liverpool 40 Bold Street, L1 4DS
Manchester 17 King Street, M2 6AW
Newport (Gwent) 32a High Street, NP1 1GH
Oxford 2 Cornmarket Street, OX1 3EX
Southampton 111 Abbe Road, SO1 0PH
Southport 47/49 West Street, PR9 0AQ
Swansea 7 College Street, SA1 5AE
Wolverhampton 17a Queen's Square, WV1 1TYME LTD, 1 Old Bond Street, London W1

When it's a watch you want we're worth going a little further for!

- Agents for all top brands.
- All usual credit cards accepted.
- Our expertise is your guarantee of quality and value.

For FREE colour catalogue write, giving your full postal address and naming the above brand to:

The Publicity Dept., Watches of Switzerland Ltd.,
1 Old Bond Street, London W1X 3TD

NOW KENYA AIRWAYS MAKE THE BIG TIME

FEB '77 Kenya Airways opens with daily service to Nairobi.

JUNE '77 Kenya Airways buys 3 707's and adds 4 destinations.

DEC 9th '77 Kenya Airways inaugurates weekly Jumbo service to Nairobi.

Kenya Airways is growing fast. Now they've added the comfort and capacity of a Jumbo service to Nairobi every Friday. Every other day of the week Kenya Airways provides flights to Nairobi on 707's calling at various European and Middle Eastern stopovers en route. See how their schedules can fit in with your schedules.

DAY	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
TO	Nairobi	Nairobi	Nairobi	Nairobi	Nairobi	Nairobi	Nairobi
FROM	Heathrow 18.25	Heathrow 18.25	Heathrow 18.25	Heathrow 18.25	Heathrow 18.25	Heathrow 18.25	Heathrow 18.25
VA	Zurich Rome	Frankfurt Rome	Cairo	Frankfurt Rome	Paris Athens	Frankfurt Rome	Zurich Rome
PLANE	707	707	707	707	707	747	707

Kenya Airways
The international airline of Kenya.

For details contact your local travel agent or Kenya Airways, Tel. 01-734 3865, or any Aer Lingus office.

PARLIAMENT, December 13, 1977

Britain and France to seek areas for closer industrial cooperation: similar views on future of EEC

House of Commons

The French and British Governments are to establish a Committee for Industrial Cooperation to identify new areas for closer cooperation between the two countries, Mr. James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said. He was making a statement about his talks yesterday with Mr. Jacques Chirac, the President of France, in the House of Commons.

Mr. Callaghan said the talks took place in a friendly atmosphere and revealed a broad similarity of approach to the main issues of the Community.

Current questions affecting the European Community were fully discussed at last week's meeting of the European Council. At that meeting, the President and the Prime Minister discussed the longer-term development of the Community. We found that our views were similar.

We discussed the important and pressing question of the Community's fisheries policy on which the Commission's proposals will provide the basis for a further meeting of the fisheries council next month.

We resumed our discussions on the world economic situation and were in agreement that it is essential for the OECD and the EEC to continue to work together to ensure that unemployment is not to rise still higher. Our own fight against inflation, which is making good progress, needs the help of the Community's policies in the strongest economies.

We discussed the problems arising from the surpluses accumulated by the Opec countries and by Japan.

In a thorough review of our bilateral relations, we agreed to establish a Committee for Industrial Cooperation, drawn from senior officials of the two countries, which will identify new areas of industrial cooperation between them.

These will include, for example, technology, technology peripheral to the computer industry, the paper industry, and the machine tool industry.

We welcomed the contacts already established between British Leyland and Renault in possible cooperation between the companies which, while leaving the initiative to them, we support and encourage.

We discussed a proposal for a 2,000 megawatt cross-Channel electricity cable link. We noted that the generating authorities in the two countries are in negotiation towards an agreement and expressed our support for this.

We reviewed the need for co-operation in the supply of defence equipment, and welcomed the significant progress that is being made.

We exchanged views on possible new projects in the field of civil aviation; we agreed that quick decisions were needed on the

various options which had opened up and that these matters should be decided on the basis of the commercial and market factors involved.

We agreed that there will be annual meetings in future between the senior officials of our countries who are concerned with economic management. In a wider framework, we agreed to encourage the Franco-British Council to organize annual meetings, such as we already have with the Federal Republic of Germany.

We also agreed to encourage industrialists, trade unionists and others to discuss matters of common concern.

We had a thorough and useful exchange of views on the international situation. We devoted particular attention to the prospects for the Middle East settlement and to Africa, on which our thinking was very close. We agreed to consider the need for a further meeting of the fisheries council next month.

This latest meeting has confirmed once again the value of these annual meetings as a positive and constructive basis on which to build Franco-British friendship.

Mr. Callaghan said that the talks were a success and that the two countries are not short of summits, committees of cooperation, or of other arrangements, particularly about the need for extra growth. All are phrased in the same terms. The only thing we are short of is results.

It is ironic that this statement on the need for industrial growth comes at a time when industrial production in both countries is at a low level.

Do any practical proposals for growth emerge from these summits?

Mr. Callaghan—It is true that there are far more international meetings than there have ever been and that sometimes results are not commensurate with the effort put in.

Nevertheless, there are problems of interdependence which are not confined to the two countries. I speak, for the President, and certainly for myself, when I say that this meeting was a success because it was a meeting where Mr. Chirac and Mr. Callaghan are not doing justice to their own approach.

Mr. Callaghan—The cross-Channel electricity link, the cross-Channel defence equipment, examination of new areas for cooperation in industry, all these are of great value and what happens is surely that one discovers one day after another that a political impetus and the same kind of political officials or colleagues. Sometimes it needs heads of government to push things through and give a push behind it.

No great results come from one meeting. I should like to cut down the number of meetings but there

is no value to the country in cutting down the meetings, so I do not agree with Mr. Thatcher about it.

Mr. Callaghan—How will they exploit the 12-year lead over United States technology in superconductive civil aviation?

Mr. Callaghan—We touched on this matter but naturally did not reach any conclusion about it. This will come increasingly under discussion as the Government, having taken the decision to support employment subsidy along with a number of other major measures which had been extended through to March, he would return to the matter.

He added that the temporary employment subsidy, more than any other single measure introduced by the Government, had substantially reduced the level of redundancies—about a third of what they would otherwise have been.

Mr. David Penhaligon (Truro, L.)—The Government considered the policy of giving time off in lieu of overtime payment and how many jobs could that create?

Mr. Callaghan—It is a question of a number of possibilities in that area. I would, however, rather see employers and trade unions working on their own alternatives to the present high levels of overtime working and on means of employment.

Mr. Callaghan—We are covering this aspect in detail. The European Programme Group is considering possible collaboration in the manufacture and development of a number of projects on a Franco-German basis. But these were bilateral talks.

Both the French President and I feel there are problems in relation to a number of areas. We have a closer link with the French in relation, for example, to textiles, shipbuilding, and aircraft.

Mr. James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab.)—In the eyes of our fishing industry the French are a big threat. Did the French President say anything about the 50-mile exclusive limit?

Mr. Callaghan—There would not be normal relations with the French if there was some friction between the fishermen off the south-west coast and French fishermen who claim ancestral and historic rights to fish there.

Because of the need to preserve fish stocks there is more in common between them than there appears to be on the surface. We hope the French will support the proposals we put forward.

A further fall in jobless total expected

The December figures would show a further fall in unemployment, Mr. Robert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, said during a question time.

He indicated that the Government were reviewing employment subsidy along with a number of other major measures which had been extended through to March. He would return to the matter.

He added that the temporary employment subsidy, more than any other single measure introduced by the Government, had substantially reduced the level of redundancies—about a third of what they would otherwise have been.

Mr. David Penhaligon (Truro, L.)—The Government considered the policy of giving time off in lieu of overtime payment and how many jobs could that create?

Mr. Callaghan—It is a question of a number of possibilities in that area. I would, however, rather see employers and trade unions working on their own alternatives to the present high levels of overtime working and on means of employment.

Mr. Callaghan—We are covering this aspect in detail. The European Programme Group is considering possible collaboration in the manufacture and development of a number of projects on a Franco-German basis. But these were bilateral talks.

Both the French President and I feel there are problems in relation to a number of areas. We have a closer link with the French in relation, for example, to textiles, shipbuilding, and aircraft.

Mr. James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab.)—In the eyes of our fishing industry the French are a big threat. Did the French President say anything about the 50-mile exclusive limit?

Mr. Callaghan—There would not be normal relations with the French if there was some friction between the fishermen off the south-west coast and French fishermen who claim ancestral and historic rights to fish there.

Because of the need to preserve fish stocks there is more in common between them than there appears to be on the surface. We hope the French will support the proposals we put forward.

Big vote in favour of first-past-the-post system for direct elections to Europe

A backbench amendment in the name of three Labour and three Conservative MPs designed to ensure that the first-past-the-post system was used for electing members of the European Assembly was defeated.

Class 3 (Method of election), as drafted, set out provisions for both methods of election and Mr. Robert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, said during a question time.

He indicated that the Government were reviewing employment subsidy along with a number of other major measures which had been extended through to March. He would return to the matter.

He added that the temporary employment subsidy, more than any other single measure introduced by the Government, had substantially reduced the level of redundancies—about a third of what they would otherwise have been.

Mr. David Penhaligon (Truro, L.)—The Government considered the policy of giving time off in lieu of overtime payment and how many jobs could that create?

Mr. Callaghan—It is a question of a number of possibilities in that area. I would, however, rather see employers and trade unions working on their own alternatives to the present high levels of overtime working and on means of employment.

Mr. Callaghan—We are covering this aspect in detail. The European Programme Group is considering possible collaboration in the manufacture and development of a number of projects on a Franco-German basis. But these were bilateral talks.

Both the French President and I feel there are problems in relation to a number of areas. We have a closer link with the French in relation, for example, to textiles, shipbuilding, and aircraft.

Mr. James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab.)—In the eyes of our fishing industry the French are a big threat. Did the French President say anything about the 50-mile exclusive limit?

Mr. Callaghan—There would not be normal relations with the French if there was some friction between the fishermen off the south-west coast and French fishermen who claim ancestral and historic rights to fish there.

parties were listed alphabetically and virtually down the ballot paper. It enabled the voter to see at a glance the individual candidates he was voting for, with the Conservative party and the other candidates in the same party.

He yielded to no one in his support for the Westminster system in continuing, under the terms of the Bill, to elect members of the House, and also for the role of the House, and also for the role of the House, and also for the role of the House.

Class 3 (Method of election), as drafted, set out provisions for both methods of election and Mr. Robert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, said during a question time.

He indicated that the Government were reviewing employment subsidy along with a number of other major measures which had been extended through to March. He would return to the matter.

He added that the temporary employment subsidy, more than any other single measure introduced by the Government, had substantially reduced the level of redundancies—about a third of what they would otherwise have been.

Mr. David Penhaligon (Truro, L.)—The Government considered the policy of giving time off in lieu of overtime payment and how many jobs could that create?

Mr. Callaghan—It is a question of a number of possibilities in that area. I would, however, rather see employers and trade unions working on their own alternatives to the present high levels of overtime working and on means of employment.

Mr. Callaghan—We are covering this aspect in detail. The European Programme Group is considering possible collaboration in the manufacture and development of a number of projects on a Franco-German basis. But these were bilateral talks.

Both the French President and I feel there are problems in relation to a number of areas. We have a closer link with the French in relation, for example, to textiles, shipbuilding, and aircraft.

Mr. James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab.)—In the eyes of our fishing industry the French are a big threat. Did the French President say anything about the 50-mile exclusive limit?

Mr. Callaghan—There would not be normal relations with the French if there was some friction between the fishermen off the south-west coast and French fishermen who claim ancestral and historic rights to fish there.

Royal Assent was the key from which they were working. The chances—unless there was a speed-up in the procedure after Christmas—under first-past-the-post being able to be ready for May, June were extremely remote.

As for the timing in regard to the regional list system after Royal Assent, he suggested that the preparation for the elections would be at least six weeks. There was the election campaign. There was the four-week period built into the Bill. They were talking about three months under the regional list system—and that was if the regional plan was accepted.

Given the limited number of seats available to the House, he recommended that the House should adopt the regional list system for the elections to the assembly in the free vote tonight.

He could do this happily without agreeing that it should be done for the Scottish and Welsh Assemblies. There he stood by the superior advantages of the simple majority system.

The regional list system would enable a speedier progress to be made and was likely to produce a more representative result than a first-past-the-post system. There were only 81 seats the swings would be enormous between elections.

Mr. Douglas Hurd, Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (Mid Oxon, C), said there had been an attempt to amend the Bill to provide support for the regional list. He found that argument irritating and illogical.

Although he favoured electoral reform in the United Kingdom and had spoken and voted accordingly, it would be a mistake to deplore the view of the House which they intended to have on the regional list system.

The key to the question of the political will of the Government to see the Bill through.

Support for this Bill (the said) is support for the principle and that does not depend upon a particular result tonight. We badly need a change in the electoral system and a definite decision of the House on the voting system. We will work for early and successful European elections, but we must have a simple, but we believe adequate, reason that they will help to bring about a more democratic Community. (Opposition cheers.)

If the Government allowed to more days in Committee and normal time in the House, the country would not be too late to reach the target date.

The Opposition had made two assumptions: that the Government would get a Cretaceous motion immediately; that the Government would be prepared to spend two days a week in Committee until the Bill left the House.

Mr. Rees had said under the regional list system the country would not be too late to reach the target date. That target date could only be met if the Government completely changed their priorities. There would have to be a complete reorganisation of the Bill, leaving on one side the Scottish and Welsh Assembly Bills and treating this Bill as a matter of urgency.

The Opposition had believed that the guillotine should not be brought before an order to vote on the Bill. Now the Government had said the Opposition suggested brought forward this proposal before there was any suggestion of a target date. It was a bit late to say it would be easier for the Opposition to provide some form of acquiescence if it came to a matter of urgency.

Support for this Bill (the said) is support for the principle and that does not depend upon a particular result tonight. We badly need a change in the electoral system and a definite decision of the House on the voting system. We will work for early and successful European elections, but we must have a simple, but we believe adequate, reason that they will help to bring about a more democratic Community. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Douglas Hurd, Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (Mid Oxon, C), said there had been an attempt to amend the Bill to provide support for the regional list. He found that argument irritating and illogical.

Although he favoured electoral reform in the United Kingdom and had spoken and voted accordingly, it would be a mistake to deplore the view of the House which they intended to have on the regional list system.

The key to the question of the political will of the Government to see the Bill through.

Support for this Bill (the said) is support for the principle and that does not depend upon a particular result tonight. We badly need a change in the electoral system and a definite decision of the House on the voting system. We will work for early and successful European elections, but we must have a simple, but we believe adequate, reason that they will help to bring about a more democratic Community. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Douglas Hurd, Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (Mid Oxon, C), said there had been an attempt to amend the Bill to provide support for the regional list. He found that argument irritating and illogical.

Although he favoured electoral reform in the United Kingdom and had spoken and voted accordingly, it would be a mistake to deplore the view of the House which they intended to have on the regional list system.

The key to the question of the political will of the Government to see the Bill through.

Two million increase forecast in workforce

The workforce might increase by more than two million between now and the early 1980s, nearly half of whom would be women, Mr. Robert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, stated.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

P.M. predicts higher living standards

Reasonable pay settlement during the next 12 months would mean further tax remissions and this, Mr. Robert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, said at a question time.

He was speaking during a question time to Mr. Robert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, who said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

He said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Mr. Booth said that the forecast was based on a number of assumptions, including a steady rate of population growth and a steady rate of economic growth.

Doctors failing to identify kidney donors

Mr. Roland Morley, Minister of Health, said that doctors were failing to identify potential kidney donors, which was a serious problem.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Doctors failing to identify kidney donors

Mr. Roland Morley, Minister of Health, said that doctors were failing to identify potential kidney donors, which was a serious problem.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

He said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Mr. Morley said that the problem was caused by a lack of information and a lack of resources.

Greater regularity of prison visits wanted

Lord Hailsham, Lord Chancellor, said that there was a need for greater regularity of prison visits.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Greater regularity of prison visits wanted

Lord Hailsham, Lord Chancellor, said that there was a need for greater regularity of prison visits.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Greater regularity of prison visits wanted

Lord Hailsham, Lord Chancellor, said that there was a need for greater regularity of prison visits.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

He said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Lord Hailsham said that the current system was inadequate and that there was a need for reform.

Innocent misrepresentation: liability under new law

could not reasonably be adapted for residential occupation at the present time.

His Lordship realized that the present case was the first town planning decision which had been quashed for being unreasonable but he believed he was doing no more than applying an established principle to the particular facts.

The applications were allowed.

David Howell says only months are left to get this message across...

How the Tories must go about creating the post-socialist society



David Howell: a question of themes.

The intellectual revolt in Britain against the collectivist has gathered great momentum. There can be no doubt who has won most of the arguments of the last three years about the broad shape of policy, and it is not the socialist.

Down at the tactical end, too, the Conservative Opposition is increasingly in the ascendant. In a parliamentary atmosphere similar, I suspect, to the late 1940s, Labour are being constantly driven on to the defensive, their party morale requiring more and more frequent performances of Mr Michael Foot's "so I say to them" speeches to keep it intact at all.

But in between broad philosophical direction and tactical warfare lies a less easily definable area where questions of opposition lie. But what would they actually do? or "What will be their attitude or approach to this intractable problem or that one?" or "How will they handle this group or that?" are bound to come up with growing frequency.

It is not so much a matter of producing a long string of policies in response to such pressures. Too much policy detail in opposition can be self-defeating, and a good deal of the Conservative Party was over-loaded with policy in the late Sixties (although this did not stop it winning).

It is more a question of themes, of impressing on the public mind the decided purposes of the would-be government and the sort of way it is most likely to react—what in earlier political parlance would be called the "character" of the incoming administration.

Here at once we come to a paradox. No Conservative opposition since the war has stood out more distinctly than this

one against socialist assumptions and socialist policies. Yet it is hard to think of a time in recent years when the Conservatives have been more acutely aware of the constraints on what a new government alone can achieve, more reluctant to rush in with "solutions" to the nation's problems, more sceptical about the remedial properties of endless fresh legislation.

The recent Conservative Central Office publication *The Right Approach to the Economy* is shot through with this mood of caution. Certainly it undertakes to cut personal taxation substantially and to reduce the share of the nation's wealth taken by the state.

But an important part of the flavour of the document is also to be found in the following sentence: "We believe that the Government knows less about business than businessmen, less about the investment that investors and less about pay bargaining than trade union negotiators and employers. We think we understand the limitations on what a government alone can do. This is surely the beginning of wisdom and common sense."

Such a passage would have been inconceivable in the literature of any political party in this country a decade ago and there are doubtless many outside politicians who feel that this more sober tone is long overdue among all politicians after the record of recent years.

But it would be a mistake to see this as a mere negative reaction to past disappointments. For the implications of such a stance are far from negative and involve vastly determined high politics for a generation.

Not to be dragged by the coattails into the vanities of an "industrial strategy" requires immense nerve and will.

Not to be deceived that rac-

king the formidable social problems of overmanaging at British Leyland and British Steel somehow constitutes a serious policy for industrial success and requires incessant argumentative energies to prevent the bureaucratic establishment from rolling precisely that way.

Not to tamper unduly with North Sea oil revenues but to let the bulk of them flow to the taxpayer requires a will to resist enormous political and pressure group forces that are fast building up.

Not to be cornered into laying down at ministerial level detailed figures for more jobs and less unemployment and professions requires a spine and clarity of purpose that appears to be entirely lacking in the present administration.

Not to be sucked into the cosy routines of the corporate state as a substitute for more fundamental measures needs a tough scepticism, an unflinching readiness to pursue awkward questions the like of which had not been evident in high politics for a generation.

Of course people want it both ways—radical action to sweep away the past but no upheavals please, major policy changes but minimum legislation. That is entirely understandable. But my guess would be that the cautious approach accords most closely with the mood of a still bruised and anxious public.

There are nevertheless some major themes which it can be expected that the Conservative Party will continue to develop, and among these I would put two which go under the broad labels of "ownership" and "order".

The Conservative belief in personal ownership, that is, ownership not by the apparatus of the state but by a few but by many, now runs very deep.

In fits and starts it has been expressed in Tory themes and policies over the years, in expanded home ownership, obviously, in the goal of the property-owning democracy, in the Conservative preoccupation with schemes to encourage personal saving and personal capital building and in warmth towards new small business and family concerns, whether in manufacturing, agriculture or services.

A number of strands have come together to give this familiar theme a new and more vigorous score. Council tenants have raised the standard of revolt against their status. Employers and business-

men have raised their voice against big bureaucracy. Technicians have cast doubts on the invariable virtues of state.

Politicians worried by the miserable unemployment figures have seen the heavy excess manpower in larger industry and have drawn their own conclusions. Planners have begun to understand that an economy is not all about manufacturing capacity. Employees have shuddered at the ruthless impersonality of the trade union machines as they drive their alleged group interest over personal circumstances and the broad public interest alike.

Workers have begun to see that through their pension schemes and life policies they already are the investors and owners against whom they are supposed to be struggling.

The renewed elevation of the ideal of mass personal ownership does not meet all these hopes and fears of course, not. But it begins to create an insistent interest the other way. Given a push the facts start to influence the attitudes.

That push is lower taxation on earnings—very much lower—the policy which unlocks the door to a post-socialist society in which millions save a bit and own a bit and see their ownership grow instead of blindly following the class war generals in their ceaseless campaigns against profits and capital.

As to the theme of order, of course no party is entitled to offer instant solutions for the group ruthlessness which now seems to have taken hold in parts of our society, let alone for the ascending spiral of personal violence which casts a shadow over every street and housing estate. But the Conservatives are entitled to emphasize their determination to organize and equip authority against crime and violence and to reject all its insidious justifications.

The doctrine of justified violence, the paving argument for a violent and ugly society, hovers menacingly just over the edge of public debate. Too much is said on the socialist side, and on key occasions much too little, to leave one anything but deeply worried about the basic will and desire of a Labour Government to resist its horrific implications.

When it comes to the point the main election debate is bound to turn, as it usually does, on what the existing government has really done and what, if returned again, it would do. No effort will be spared on the Conservative side in helping Labour to explain exactly what it has done and exactly what kind of Britain, setting its heavy future programme of socialism would bring about.

No poetic imagination or party exaggeration will be needed. All is on record, all or nearly all is lovingly set out in Labour's Programme for Britain.

Yet something more than this will certainly be asked of the Conservatives at the polls. There will be a need to show not just that they can and must defeat the socialism of the day, or the tomorrow, not just that they are driven by aspirations of freedom, but that they are capable of presiding with competence, common sense and understanding over the gradual emergence of the post-socialist society, where people in their families count nightly, where their freedom to go in safety is of intense concern and where what they own by saving and share in the community by owning matters supremely.

In the months that remain the Conservatives have this message to get over.

The author is Conservative MP for Guildford.

© Times Newspapers Ltd, 1977

Bernard Levin

Forget the fantasies, this is the reality of China today

Yesterday, I discussed and quoted from a remarkable series of articles, which appeared in the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, by Mr Ross Munro, that paper's correspondent in China since June 1975, who has now been told (because of this very series) that he must leave the country. What is particularly valuable and refreshing about Mr Munro's honesty and skill is that, although he sees the same as other visitors and reporters, he is not content simply to observe; he also seeks explanations for what he sees. Thus, he points out that

Most people who travel around China report that the cities are relatively orderly, quite unlike the scenes of urban chaos found in other parts of Asia. In Chinese cities, they have seen no teaming shantytowns, no one sleeping on the streets, no beggars staking out the hotels.

But he promptly continues by saying that:

There is one overriding explanation for this: the urban population is severely limited because all but a tiny minority of China's 650-million-plus peasants must have the right to move to the cities. This restriction is the greatest limitation of freedom that China imposes on its people. . . . Today, innumerable people from the rural areas endure hardship and risk punishment by going to the cities where they often lead marginal existences, living off friends or relatives because they cannot legitimately obtain regular housing or the ration coupons necessary for food, rice and clothing. If they're caught begging, the authorities send them back to the communes.

It is worth pausing there to ask what Mr Munro's description of that state of affairs reminds us of. Is it not uncannily similar to South Africa's laws which deprive millions of Africans of any residence rights in the cities and enforce their return to the "homelands"? But of course there is one very dramatic difference: most of those who protest at the cruelty and injustice of such a system in South Africa have nothing to say against the system in China. (It was difficult enough to make Mr Peter Hain, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, say that the Soviet barbarism it would be the devil's own job to get him to "pick" the Chinese Embassy.)

And yet even South Africa's black majority are not so badly off as China's masses in this respect. . . . Even a short trip away from one's village or city can be difficult to arrange, however. The would-be traveller must first go to the leader of his unit or factory workshop, a production team or a commune or other organization he works for and ask for leave from work and permission to travel.

And when the "permissions" of that passage have been digested, try this one: . . . Once he gets permission from his work unit, the traveller must obtain special ration coupons enabling him to buy rice or bread outside his province. These coupons are one of the most basic of the control mechanisms in China. Ordinarily, families are issued grain coupons weekly only in the home province. They cannot buy even a bowl of rice in a restaurant in another province unless they present the much prized national coupon. Once the traveller gets

to his destination, he cannot stay at a hotel or lodging house unless he presents a letter of introduction from his unit. If he stays with friends or relatives, they are required to register their guest with the local authorities.

And while I am on the subject of de-localization, how many of those who have adopted the phrase "Catch-22" to describe the actions of the authorities in Western society, will use it about this translation into Chinese?

In recent years, millions of young people have been sent out of the cities and into the countryside upon graduation. . . . They are observed, discussed and judged by local party functionaries, by work leaders and, in a limited but symbolically important way, by their fellow graduates. Getting back to the city can be an extraordinarily difficult business. Commune officials say, for instance, that a young person can demonstrate a "good political attitude" by expressing an enthusiastic willingness to settle down in the countryside for the rest of his life.

No wonder, then, that as Mr Munro demonstrates, almost by accident:

The most relaxed and independent citizens of China seem to be those whose work gives them the opportunity to escape the constant controls of their units. Car drivers on the road all day alone with their horse-drawn wagons seem to be among the most individualistic people in China, causing and joking as the mood moves them and apparently quite unconcerned about what anyone thinks of them.

But, the admirers of China will declare, at least Western favouritism and nepotism, class connexions and "pull" are absent from the pure air of China. Mr Munro, however, has studied the situation as it actually exists, not as its admirers imagine it to be, and reports accordingly:

Family and school connexions help. In some schools, most of the students are sons and daughters of officials. Obviously there must be special privileges for these students. A student at Peking University, indiscreetly boasted that 37 per cent of his high school class had entered institutions of higher education. Those with enough political credentials, intellectual superiority and good connexions to gain entry to college or university embark on a career path that will take them into the cadre class. A cadre, by the Josefine Chinse definition, is either an official, a bureaucrat or a member of the "intelligence" which includes teachers, propagandists and professionals.

Mr Munro's work in China, consisting of clear-eyed observation, has given us a very much better idea of the reality of that country today than all the fantasies of the Felix Greenes and Han Suyins and Neville Martinells. And that we need his reality urgently is well shown by a recent report in the *People's Daily*, with which I don't conclude today, before summing up on Eddy's lessons Mr Munro has taught us. "The Chinese courts," said the authoritative voice of China, "are an instrument of oppression designed to strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat." Quite.

(To be concluded)

© Times Newspapers Ltd, 1977

Mr Sadat, still relying on America to budge Israel

Seldom can a major international peace conference have been held in circumstances of such confusion and ambiguity as the one which formally opens this morning at the Mena House hotel.

Officially, it is merely a pre-arranged for the resumption of the Geneva Conference. But unofficially the Israelis and Americans now seem increasingly to brush aside the Geneva framework as no longer relevant, or at least an arena for the formal ratification of substantive agreements reached elsewhere. President Sadat, by saying that the Cairo Conference could continue for months, and be taken up by Foreign Minister level "or even higher", has implied much the same. From the point of view of both Israel and Egypt the Cairo framework is preferable to the Geneva one because Mr Sadat issued the invitations in such a way that those parties whom he saw as putting procedural obstacles in the way of real negotiations at that is Syria, the PLO and the Soviet Union were bound to refuse.

In other words, Mr Sadat has engineered a framework for bilateral negotiations between Egypt and Israel. Both parties to swearing hand-on-heart, however, that this does not mean they want a separate peace.

Ideally, of course, Israel would like peace with all her neighbours. It mutually acceptable terms could be found. But in reality Israel's policy-makers believe that peace with Syria is

not possible at this stage, that Lebanon cannot move independently from Syria, and that Jordan may also not be able to enter because of the complexities of the Palestinian issue. They would, therefore, gladly settle for a separate peace with Egypt to be going on with, and are hoping that Mr Sadat feels the same way, and is only asking them to show flexibility on non-Egyptian issues so that he can put the blame on the other Arab parties for the fact that a comprehensive settlement is not reached at this stage.

That interpretation of Mr Sadat's intentions is probably right—at least in so far as it affects Syria. Mr Sadat has now made it clear that he does not believe the present Syrian regime is seriously interested in making peace, and also that he does not think it matters much since in the end Syria has no choice but to tag along behind Egypt. But it appears that he still hopes to bring in Jordan at a later stage of the negotiations and also some Palestinians, preferably including at least a part of the PLO.

No doubt his insistence on an independent Palestinian state in his speech to the Knesset was largely tactical, since in the past he has sought to meet Israeli fears by encouraging a link between the Palestinians and Jordan. From a practical point of view such a link makes obvious sense, but Mr Sadat has clearly grasped the great emotional importance which Palestinians attach to being recognized as a people



The head of the Israeli delegation, Eilhan Ben Elissar, right, is greeted in Cairo.

in their own right, not as mere subjects of the Hashemite monarch.

King Hussein himself is well aware of this, and would be unlikely to re-assume responsibility for the West Bank unless asked to do so by some credible representatives of Palestinian opinion, and given the green light by the more important Arab states. That in turn means that at least some Palestinian leaders formerly associated with the PLO, and perhaps claiming to represent the real PLO, would have to be involved.

None of these people are likely to get involved unless they can be convinced that Israel is willing to withdraw from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. And this, no doubt,

is what the Egyptians mean when they propose that follow the inaugural session, the conference will start discussing the core of the problem, which is the Palestinian question.

The Israelis know this. Mr Begin has said repeatedly in the last few weeks that he recognizes the existence of a "problem of the Palestinian Arabs" that he is prepared to discuss it and believes a solution can be found. Although theoretically committed by his election platform not to allow any part of "Judea and Samaria" to return to "foreign" (ie non-Israeli) rule, he has allowed Mr Dayan to say that Israel is willing to discuss a territorial partition of the area. But Mr Dayan also pointed out that a partition

is not what the Arabs want: they want the return of all the land lost in 1967, and up to now no Israeli government has been prepared to consider this.

For this reason, even Israeli doves now talk of a "functional" rather than territorial compromise, the idea being apparently that the Arab inhabitants of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip should enjoy extensive autonomy under some kind of Israeli-Jordanian condominium. It seems unlikely that this will be enough to tempt either the Palestinians themselves or King Hussein, in which case it will be of little use to Mr Sadat.

Mr Sadat wants peace: that is clear. Indeed he seems to want something like an alliance

with Israel against those whom he regards as Soviet-inspired trouble-makers in the Arab world. But this projection is not apparently based on the assumption that once Israel is no longer threatened by Egypt as a hostile military power, she should be prepared to accept the pre-1967 frontiers as a basis for negotiation. So far Israel shows no disposition to do this. The signs are that Mr Sadat is still relying on American pressure to budge Israel, and that one of the main objectives of all his spectacular diplomacy in the last few weeks has been to assure himself or more wholehearted American support.

Edward Mortimer

An ordinary house in an ordinary street



yet it could rescue 7 elderly people from loneliness

Abbeyfield buys and converts ordinary houses into about 7 bed-sitting-rooms each. Here, lonely elderly people enjoy both the privacy of their own rooms with their own furniture around them—and the company of others at two meals a day, served in the dining room by the housekeeper. Abbeyfield helps people of all backgrounds. Abbeyfield is, perhaps, one of the more imaginative solutions to the problem of loneliness in old age. Each Abbeyfield house is established and looked after by its

own group of local voluntary workers. Thus charges are kept to a minimum. Each group is formed as an independent charity. There are more than 600 Abbeyfield houses all over the kingdom. But many more are wanted.

Will you help? Abbeyfield needs money, yes—but equally it needs people to help their local Abbeyfield Society where one exists, or to start one where it doesn't.

As a first step, will you write to us for a copy of our explanatory booklet?

ABBNEYFIELD SOCIETY

President: Lord Pritchard
25A High Street, Pottery Bar, Hertfordshire, Pottery Bar SG8 3BT.

Variety of considerable donations

Star of the latest bout of cheque-giving by the Variety Club of Great Britain at the Savoy yesterday was not Viscount Amory or the Second Sea Lord or comedian Frank Carson or chief baker Trevor Chinn or even guest of honour Princess Margaret—but the Jewish Metropolitan Police Commissioner, David McNee.

The stocky Scotsman was anything but dour in a sparkling little speech, which included some good jokes, such as the one about the police superintendent who caught one of his constables standing in Trafalgar Square with his arms outstretched, looking up at the pigeons and saying: "Go on, go on, everybody else does."

In the best traditions of public speaking, he ended up on a strong straight note: "It has not been an easy year for the Metropolitan Police. The maintenance of public order amid demonstrations, and industrial disputes has been particularly demanding on resources, and in particular of our most precious commodity, manpower."

Far too many of our officers have been injured. The strain on police wives and families has reached critical levels."

Mr McNee was speaking after being presented with a cheque of £5,000 by the Variety Club

for the children's section of the police dependants' trust.

The Variety Club also presented a cheque for £10,000 to Dawn House School, a special school run under the auspices of the Invalid Children's Aid Association, of which Princess Margaret is president. They received from the Second Sea Lord a cheque for £4,000 which had been raised by the Royal Navy.

Coals to Newcastle?

Forty per cent of the requests from American libraries for documents from the British Library's lending division are for United States publications, say officials of the British Library. It turns out that requests are dealt with so speedily that it is often quicker for American institutions to send to the giant library at Boston Spa in West Yorkshire, than it is for them to try to obtain the publications through the national libraries in the United States.

A mix-up by a Worcester mail order firm has led to hundreds of people receiving a cassette of a rather naughty Peter Cook and Dudley Moore recording—four letter words and all—instead of *Black Beauty*.

THE TIMES DIARY/PHS

Thank God for that...



Environmental considerations

The row which I started in these pages (December 8) on the performance of senior personnel at the Ministry of Defence in changing the story at the eight-story main building (where out-of-office lifts remained unoperated through industrial action) has left them unmoved at the Department of the Environment. And not surprisingly, since the band of

ministers (headed by Peter Shore) who work at the 15-storey (ugly) Marsham Street headquarters were, it seems, planning to move downstairs to a new office.

For some time now, a notice has been circulating advising that because of the swiftness they might have to leave the fine views afforded by their offices (floors) and move down to less breathless climes.

The official memorandum reads: "Contingency plans are being made for some ministers and a few senior officers who need to work closely with them to move into temporary offices in the lower floors. The main criterion for deciding such moves (apart from health considerations) will be the need for relatively frequent and speedy movement in and out of the building, bearing in mind the need for ministers to be within division bell distance of the House."

Bernard Levin went to see *Wychazel* The Country Wife at the National Theatre last night and noted a line that he says might have come straight out of the Steve Biko inquest: A character is insisting that the truth of what he is saying will be attested to by the doctor in the room, whereupon one of his more sceptical listeners replies: "They? They'll swear a man that died to death of his wounds died of an anaphylaxis."

The upper reaches

Which French bass singer was found in bed with the composer during a performance at the Paris Opera? Michael Scott, who used to present star-studded operatic evenings in London, tells all in a candid and detailed book about opera singers called *The Record of Singing*.

The book is included by EMI in a limited edition of boxed sets of 12 records illustrating the work of the singers (soprano and virtuoso) before the First World War. Already, though the albums have scarcely reached the shops, EMI are assured a sell-out even at the approximately monumental price of £25.

Some 250 of the singers mentioned in Scott's book are included on the records, the most curious perhaps being Professor Alessandro Mercadante, the only castrato ever recorded. Strangely the oldest recording of all, made by an American called Ellen Beach-Yaw in 1893, while she was in London, is bearing Sullivan's *Role of Persia*, established some sort of record among records. In a piece of mock Mozart, Miss Yaw, whose voice is likened to "wind blowing in chimney," achieved a high note recorded seldom, if ever, since. Despite that, the pressings languished unmissed in EMI's archives, until now.

Making an overture

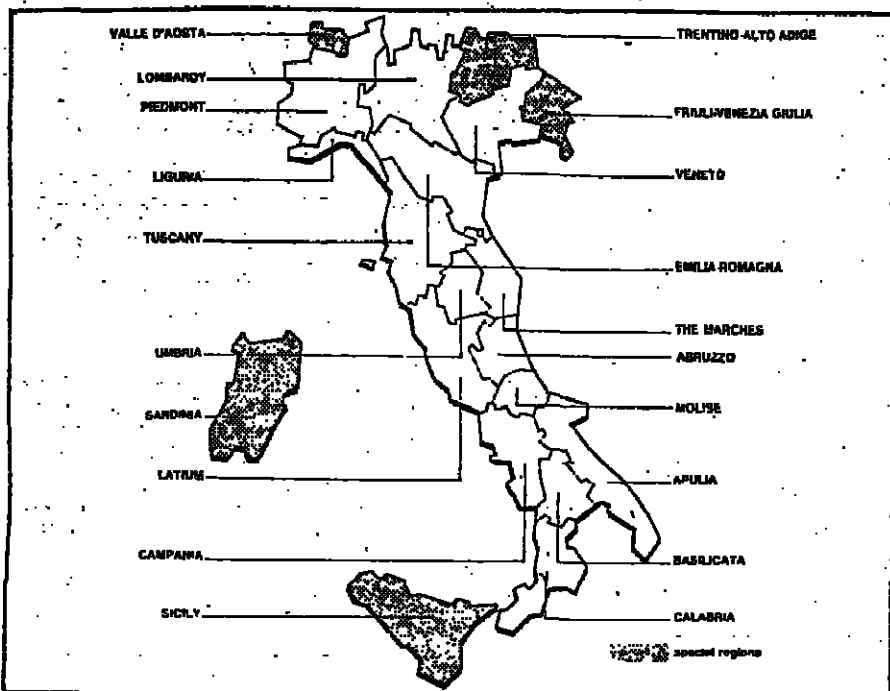
Any suggestions (and they must be printable) for a signature tune for the European Parliament? I am told that the search is now on for a theme, which I don't conclude today, by play before the European Parliament. The movement allegro molto from Haydn's 94th Symphony has apparently been suggested. Please do not pause to inquire what Westminster's tune is or why (indeed) a Parliament should need music to put to the plethora of words.

Possibly just hot air

A reader rang us (aimed rather than intended) to say that a group called, improbably, the Anal Zephyr Trio had been booked for the National Theatre early evening "serenade" on December 19. Could they exist? The National Theatre said they were not sure. When they rang us back they said that the pianist would be "unavailable" and that the group would not perform. But, following extensive inquiries, I am assured that the Anal Zephyr Trio does exist (though apart from the pianist) and that the group would not perform. But, following extensive inquiries, I am assured that the Anal Zephyr Trio does exist (though apart from the pianist) and that the group would not perform. But, following extensive inquiries, I am assured that the Anal Zephyr Trio does exist (though apart from the pianist) and that the group would not perform.

REGIONS OF ITALY

a Special Report introducing
a series on the nation's
diverse areas



Key
A Population (Dec 31, 1975)
B Per cent of votes cast at latest regional elections (June, 1975, unless otherwise specified): DC=Christian Democrat, PCI=Communist, PSI=Socialist, UV=Unione Valdostana, MSI=Movimento Sociale Italiano (right wing)
C Name and party of regional president
D Average income per head (Italy=100)
E Unemployed, per cent
F Ratio of type of employment, per cent: agricultural / industrial / other
G Regional capital

ITALY
A 56,009,400
B DC 35.3, PCI 33.4, PSI 12, others 19.3
C 100
D 3.31
E 16.4/43.7/39.9

VALLE D'AOSTA

A 113,720
B DC 21.4, PCI 19.5, PSI 8.5, UV 33.9, others 16.7 (June, 1973)
C Mario Andriano (UV)
D 138.3
E 14/39.5/46.5
F Aosta
G Italy's smallest region used to suffer from isolation until the two great tunnels were opened under Monte Bianco and the St Bernard and a motorway was completed through the valley.
H Despite its strong French tradition, Piedmont was the cradle of Italian unity. With the Fiat works in Turin, it is the centre of Italy's engineering industry; it also produces the country's finest red wines.

LOMBARDY

A 8,837,350
B DC 37.5, PCI 30.4, PSI 14.1, others 18
C Cesare Golfari (DC)
D 138.5
E 1.54

LIGURIA

A 1,867,439
B DC 30.4, PCI 38.4, PSI 13.5, others 17.7
C Angelo Carosino (PCI)
D 137.5
E 3.36
F 8.1/38.3/53.6
G Genoa
H A steeply mountainous coast has given the region an outward-looking character. It is no coincidence that Italy's greatest port, Genoa, and Italy's greatest explorer—Columbus—both belong to Liguria.

TUSCANY

A 3,566,686
B DC 28.5, PCI 46.5, PSI 10.7, others 14.3
C Lello Lagorio (PSI)
D 107.4
E 2.55
F 10.5/47.5/42
G Florence
H Tuscans allow no doubts that their region produces the best spoken Italian, the world's finest treasure-house of art and the grandest combination of man with God in the balance of their landscape.

UMBRIA

A 795,246
B DC 27.6, PCI 46.2, PSI 13.9, others 12.3
C Germano Marri (PCI)
D 84.7
E 4.18
F 18.5/42.5/39
G Perugia
H Umbria's apparent serenity, epitomized by the quiet of Assisi and Spoleto, is broken by dissatisfaction with its lack of development and a feeling that it is caught between the busy north and the subsidized south.

SARDINIA

A 1,552,854
B DC 38.3, PCI 26.6, PSI 11.7, others 23.2 (June, 1974)
C Pietro Soddu (DC)
D 74.8
E 5.42
F 20.1/33.6/46.2
G Cagliari
H Few parts of Europe have remained so firmly outside the history of the continent (a word which Sardinians reserve for the Italian mainland). This, as much as its lovely coastline, is why the island retains a unique fascination.

LATINUM

A 4,815,326
B DC 31.5, PCI 33.5, PSI 9.8, others 25.2
C Giulio Santarelli (PSI)
D 112.8

CAMPANIA

A 4,488,197
B DC 33.3, PCI 25.2, PSI 14.7, others 20.6
C Aldo Ferrara (DC)
D 51.9
E 6.78
F 28.1/31.3/40.6
G Catanzaro
H Overshadowed by Naples—a resilient city which sometimes appears to be falling apart before one's eyes—Campania is Italy's second most populous region and its second poorest in terms of average income.

CALABRIA

A 2,034,488
B DC 39.5, PCI 25.2, PSI 14.7, others 20.6
C Aldo Ferrara (DC)
D 51.9
E 6.78
F 28.1/31.3/40.6
G Catanzaro
H Intense jealousies between individual towns and villages have hampered the creation of a regional identity. There is little industry, and Calabrians may justly feel that they deserve more than natural beauty and the respect of the *cognoscenti*.

SICILY

A 4,860,399
B DC 33.3, PCI 10.5, PSI 10.8, MSI 16.3, others 29.1 (June, 1973)
C Angelo Bonfiglio (DC)
D 66.3
E 4.39
F 25.8/33.4/41
G Palermo
H The island was granted semi-autonomy in May, 1946, before the Italian constitution itself came into force. The move was effective, and although Sicilian regionalism was for long chaotic, it has recently acquired a more even temper.

TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE

A 866,484
B DC 35.6, PCI 7.5, PSI 8.4, PPST/PTT, 31.7, others 16.8 (Nov., 1973)
C Spartaco Marziani (DC)
D 110.3
E 1.62
F 16.2/36/47.8
G Trento
H Agreement after the last war gave the German-speaking South Tyrol substantial autonomy within a region which also includes the province of Trento. Occasionally violent objections by extremists among the German speakers seem to be quiescent.

VENETO

A 4,277,530
B DC 48, PCI 22.6, PSI 12.8, others 16.4
C Angelo Tomelleri (DC)
D 96.3
E 0.84
F 13/47.8/39.2
G Venice
H Venice continues to be one of the few dreams which maintain the promise of their fame. Smaller cities, such as Vicenza and Verona, and the Po delta itself, retain a style and freshness of their own.

FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA

A 1,244,595
B DC 38.7, PCI 20.9, PSI 12.3, others 24.1 (June 1973)
C Antonio Comelli (DC)
D 118.1
E 2.07
F 20.1/33.6/48.2
G Trieste

Italy's most sensitive frontier had to await solution of the Trieste dispute before it became a special region. The largely agricultural area of Friuli was added to compensate for the loss of much of the city's hinterland.

EMILIA ROMAGNA

A 3,935,722
B DC 25.3, PCI 48.3, PSI 10.2, others 16.2
C Sergio Cavina (PCI)
D 114.9
E 2.84
F 16.9/43.0/40.1
G Bologna
H The leading communist stronghold is renowned for serious devotion to good eating and drinking and physical pleasures. Bologna has a tradition of fiery political oratory to which both Pietro Nenni and Mussolini belong.

THE MARCHES

A 1,390,400
B DC 36.5, PCI 35.9, PSI 9.8, others 18.8
C Adriano Cialfi (DC)
D 86.4
E 2.17
F 21.2/42.9/35.9
G Ancona
H A border region, neither poor nor subject to uncontrolled industrial expansion. Anconese survive strongly and its countryside has a quiet beauty, though too many of its inhabitants have left for the coastal towns.

ABRUZZO

A 1,211,460
B DC 42.5, PCI 30.3, PSI 10.2, others 17
C Romeo Ricciuti (DC)
D 77
E 3.87
F 28.7/32.5/38.8
G L'Aquila
H Before the motorways, when the route from Rome to L'Aquila was open only in the summer, this central region used to be more closely connected with the south. It is mountainous, sparsely populated and slightly mysterious.

MOLISE

A 329,547
B DC 49.9, PCI 17.9, PSI 10.1, others 22.1
C Florindo D'Amico (DC)
D 59.6
E 4.31
F 41.4/27.9/30.6
G Campobasso
H Boasting neither the population nor the economic weight to rank as a separate region, Molise was given this status mainly because of the communication difficulties which would have arisen if it had been attached to Abruzzo or Umbria.

APULIA

A 3,771,949
B DC 39.2, PCI 28.5, PSI 11.9, others 20.4
C Nicola Rotolo (DC)
D 84.7
E 4.76
F 34.6/30.7/34.7
G Bari
H Low-lying areas are fertile. Olives and vines seem to spread to infinity. But the hill country is poor, and industrial projects—steel at Taranto, petrochemicals at Brindisi—are still out of the regional structure.

BASILICATA

A 614,735
B DC 41.9, PCI 27.1, PSI 13.2, others 17.8
C Vincenzo Verrastro (DC)
D 58.9
E 4.76
F 39.5/32/28.5
G Potenza
H Reafforestation and the revival of a pastoral economy are vital if the region's potential is to be realized, and methane deposits in the Basento valley deserve development. So do plans to attract more visitors.

Correction of historic error

by Peter Nichols

Italy and are now well into the fourth system of government which they have tried in so brief a period. Immediately after unification, the Italians applied a to modern times, they highly centralized form of government which was democratic but based on an elite, little more than a century and largely an anti-clerical

elite. Fascism knocked that away and the centralization which had already proved totally inappropriate to the country's needs and heritage was emphasized still more. The end of Fascism brought a mass democracy led by the Catholic party opposed, at least in the early

years, to a Communist party which was also based on the principle of the masses and not of an elite. At the general election last year, which saw a consolidation of Christian Democratic strength and a big advance by the Communists, the world could see that some-

thing new had happened to Italian political life. Only the developed some surprising and very unusual features. Communists and Catholics cooperated in as painless a way as possible for both: the minority Christian Democratic Administration could rely on the abstention in Parliament of the Communists as well as the small lay parties, excepting only the neo-Fascists. This indirect support grew into a six-party governmental programme which was essentially, in terms of political weight, a formal understanding between Christian Democrats and Communists.

There is no clear distinction between government and opposition. Only the Christian Democrats are in government but they have no majority of their own. The result is a type of democracy quite unlike the Anglo-Saxon model. It is choral and not a duet.

Historical parallels, both Christian and classical, can be found for this uncommon way of governing, but it was certainly easier to existence, and allowed to work with more elasticity, because of the fact that Italy has been for seven years a state based on a combination of central and regional authority within a unitary framework.

The postwar constitution introduced the principle of a strong degree of regionalism but it was not until 1970 that the regions really began their semi-autonomous life throughout the whole country. Only in 1975, at the regional elections, was the political balance clear in all 20 regions, and for that matter, the balance of political weight within the regions estimated on a national scale. The advance of the left, meant in effect that about a half the total population was under regional and local government administrations in which the left played its part.

The fact that at regional level, or below, the national considerations counselled extreme caution in collaboration between the left and other parties were not relevant meant that arrangements could be made never before tried in the national Parliament. They are being tried now and are less disturbing to public opinion because of the whole series of regional experiments which preceded them.

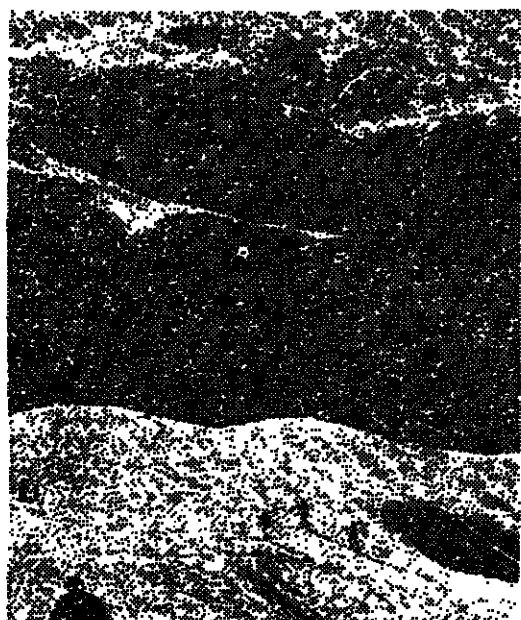
In this sense, the extremely brief existence of the regions can be said to have contributed heavily towards the solution of the dilemma left by last year's general election. Deadlock looked inevitable but the necessary flexibility was found and a new phase began in the way Italy is governed.

The principal object of regionalism is not, however, to prepare the path for new versions of democracy at the national level. The real object of the regions is to correct the historic error of imposing centralization on a country with such deep local differences and to project an idea for the future of administration kept in terms of size within human limits. The 20 Italian regions vary greatly in size: Lombardy

continued on page 1V

Friuli Venezia Giulia

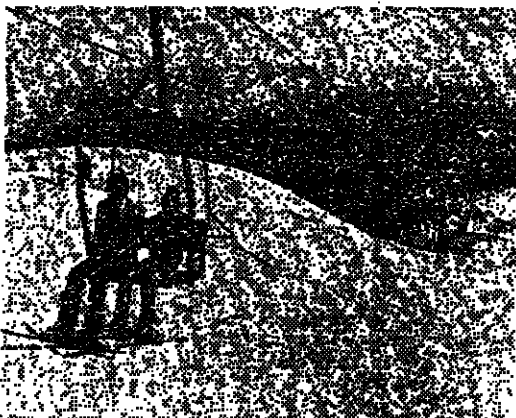
For an action holiday, a whole mountain area to be discovered



The Tarvisio area: with the special fascination of its lakes and forests, its rolling acres of fields and its tall mountains, its glaciers and its everlasting snows, the area is endowed with a wealth of resources: not just the environment, but also its history, living testimony to the way in which peoples of different languages and traditions have lived together in harmony.

Even in winter, fast roads provide access to the better known towns and to strange and interesting places, to snow fields and to ski runs and trails, served by a comprehensive system of ski lifts and cable cars.

Carnia: the home of a hard-working and hospitable people, its landscape infinitely variable in every season, its facilities for visitors continually improving. Already popular resorts are taking on a new look as the vast ski areas of Zoncolan and Varmost are being opened out. Arta Terme is still one of the leading international thermal spas. On the border with Cadore and Austria, the full range of the Eastern Dolomites and the Carnia Alps is criss-crossed by safe paths and routes.



The area of Pordenone: most of this area has yet to be fully discovered. Here the mountains are often harsh, but small villages nestle against their flanks and there are valleys of outstanding beauty at their foot, in which nature is still unspoiled and where each changing season paints the landscape with different colours. For lovers of winter sports, Piancavallo on the edge of the plain provides all the attractions of a modern resort, with facilities for every form of recreation or sport.



Published by the Assessorato del Turismo della REGIONE AUTONOMA FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA

Lombardy snow & cathedrals.



Come to Lombardy where snow can wait for you all year long. You will find over 800 miles of snow-tracks and first class ski-lifts.

You can go to Valtellina, to Aprica, Bormio, Madesimo, S. Caterina Valfurva, to Chiesa Valsalica. Or else you can ski above Bergamo, Brescia, Como, Lecco or on the Apenines of Pavia. Here you will also find many thermal springs, oases of peace where nature still plays a regenerating role. Arriving or leaving you must stop at our lakes and visit our towns and villages.

You will see cathedrals, squares, castles and frescoes everywhere. And you will realize how the most famous artists, summoned here by the great families of Lombardy like the Sforza, the Visconti and the Gonzaga have handed this region over to history.

Lombardy
written about by man
designed
by nature.

Peter Nichols talks to five regional chairmen—a Socialist, a Communist and three Christian Democrats—about their plans and administrative problems

The three main political parties have their share of chairmanships of regional administrations. They also share the difficulties imposed by regional differences.

The Christian Democrats have all the southern regions. In several of them they are now working in formal agreement with the Communists. But the responsibility is theirs, and it can be heavy.

Sardinia makes special case

The chairman of the regional administration of Sardinia, which is one of the five special regions, is Signor Pietro Sotgiu. He began his career in 1961 when he was elected mayor of his native town of Bonassiu. He went on to join the Sassari provincial council and was elected for the first time to the regional council in 1961. He has at various times been in charge of the island's development plan, industry, finance and health.

Though there are great differences between Italy's two biggest islands, they have something in common in the way they have conducted their regional affairs. Most people agree that the first few years were extremely discouraging but there seems now to be a greater will to cut out some



Signor Pietro Sotgiu, Chairman of the regional administration of Sardinia.

The gentleman of Verona

In the Veneto—to take a region diametrically opposed in geographical terms and in outlook to Calabria—the Christian Democrats have an absolute majority and problems which are real enough but without the desperate touch of the south provinces.

The head of the regional administration, Signor Angelo Tomelleri, comes from Verona where he was born 53 years ago. He began his career in local government as a municipal councillor of Verona and was elected a member of the provincial council in 1950. He took over responsibility for public works and moved to the chairmanship in February, 1965. He was elected to the regional council in 1970 and was elected for the first time as chairman in August. He is now in his third term of office.

He is against the idea of the regions drawn up as a central authority. He prefers that this region, which is a contribution of its own. Where collaboration is required, he tries to seek it with regions having the most in common with the Veneto.

The original euphoria over regionalism has now given way to an attempt to be saved by contributions from all, but in particular the economic. "We are at the moment conducting a battle to escape from the grip of indebtedness and a role, a new life."



Signor Angelo Tomelleri, head of the regional administration of Verona.

Calabria's 'desperate' troubles are now worse

The endemic troubles of Calabria, which seven years ago looked desperate, are now widely felt to be still worse.

The region had a disastrous start. The nomination of Capuzzo as regional capital was the spark which set off the revolt in 1970 of Reggio Calabria, the region's biggest city. The Government attempted to placate the rebels. An arrangement was made by which the regional offices are in Catanzaro and the meetings of the regional council take place in Reggio Calabria. It is two hours' drive between the two, a waste of many people's time and additionally inconvenient because the councillors do not have the executive offices near them for reference and information.

The chairman of the Calabrian regional executive is Signor Aldo Ferrara, a lawyer elected at Catanzaro. Before his election in 1970

to the new regional council he had presided over the Catanzaro provincial administration, which he joined with responsibility for town planning. He succeeded to the regional chairmanship after his predecessor was killed in a car accident. He understandably has a harassed look. His own party is unpredictable.

"This", one local Christian Democrat points out, "is a semi-territory and our politics are as unstable as the terrain." The standing of the state, as high officials confirm, is zero, and so far the region has failed to stimulate public confidence in political institutions.

The regional commission set up two years ago to study crime—meaning mainly the Mafia, though this was not specified—has just held its first substantive meeting. The economic promises made seven years ago remain unfulfilled. The biggest promise of all—to build a steel works at Gioia Tauro—still under debate although ground clearance has already begun.



The ranks of Tuscany face left

The centre of the country is largely Left oriented. Tuscany, like Lazio, has a Socialist at the head of its regional administration. He is Signor Lello Lagorio, lawyer, professor at Florence University where he teaches civil law, and journalist. From 1963 for two years he edited the quarterly *La Regione* and two years ago

founded *Citta e Regione*—which is largely devoted to stimulating socialist intellectuals to write about political and social problems, in particular about decentralization and local government. He has written a book *Una Regione da Costruire* which describes the first five years of the regional experiment in Italy.

A radical in Ravenna

Emilia Romagna is the stronghold of Italian communism and the regional administration is led by Signor Sergio Cavina, whose career has been largely that of a party administrator. Aged 48 and born in Ravenna, he was already a member of the party in January, 1945. He was secretary of the Communist Youth Federation in Ravenna and went on to become secretary of the party federation in Ravenna from 1959 to 1965.

After four years as a municipal councillor, he was elected to the regional council in 1970. He is a member of the party's central committee and from 1965 has been regional secretary. His problems include maintaining the Communist Party's policy of showing themselves to be efficient administrators. In this he has a big advantage over his colleagues in the regions more recently gained by the Communists or where they have a large share in



Signor Sergio Cavina, regional administrator of Emilia Romagna.

Church balances its cheques

by Giovanni Nervo

After the tormented era of the Fascist dictatorship Italy gave itself a new constitution in 1946-47 which introduced a deep institutional change, setting up the regions: this had been one of the aims of the Catholic political movement from the outset. The Constituent Assembly had given Parliament a two-year time limit for the job.

In reality, the five regions usually known today as the special statute regions were set up very quickly; the other 15 were only set up 23 years later, in 1970. But not all of the Government's powers were immediately decentralised to the regions; it was only with the now famous law no 382 of July 22, 1975, that Parliament called on the Government to issue a decree having the force of law, to complete the transfer of powers fixed by the constitution.

After a number of postponements the decree, no 616, was issued on July 24, 1977. Bearing in mind the wide scope of the decree, the mass of functions, staff, assets and finances transferred to the regions, and the consequent diversity and mass of interests that the decree affects, it is easy to understand the strong reaction that was caused in all circles, and at all levels.

Decree no 616 transferred to the regions the functions, finance and assets of 16 general departments, belonging to nine ministries, six ministerial departments, and 62 national bodies. In addition, it transferred to the communes the functions, staff and assets of several thousand public assistance and welfare institutions (IPAI), 8,000 communal assistance organizations (ECA) and about the same number of charitable school, welfare organizations.

Anyone judging the law in the light of its overall significance must approve of it. It is obviously an advantage to have the local authorities looking after the most direct, most immediate interests of the population, such as schools, health, welfare and assistance and town planning. Because situations differ so considerably from one area to another, the commune knows the needs of its own population better than the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Health. There are two aspects, however, that cause doubt and anxiety. The first concerns the timing and manner of putting the law into prac-

tice; the second concerns the substance of the law itself.

In the first place the time schedule is tight, and compulsory. It is feared that for some years local authorities will be in serious difficulties in absorbing their new powers and responsibilities, and in consequence there will be delays and chaos; and it will be the public services and the people that use them that will suffer, and, in the case of welfare and assistance, the worst.

Moreover, there was almost no preparation for such a large and complex operation. But perhaps everything can be explained if it is remembered that only through revolutionary, almost unexpected law was it possible to overcome resistance of a kind that for more than 20 years has prevented the setting up of the regions.

Second, there is no doubt that this law, and particularly the decree implementing it, was the result of urgent pressure from the left and especially the Italian Communist Party (PCI) and very strongly reflects their influence. Indeed, it could not have been otherwise. For more than a year Italy has been governed by a Christian Democrat government of interests which has the confidence only of its own party. In these political conditions decree no 316 is aiming, through decentralization to the regions and the communes, at greater socialization of the public administration, and that may be all to the good. However, at the same time the decree does not allow any room for intermediate groups, and the outline laws—which should guide legislative activity in the regions and guarantee the pluralism that was affirmed and enshrined in the constitution—are still lacking.

These were expressed as matters for concern by the Italian Episcopal Conference at the last meeting of its permanent council. Nor is this concern smoothed away by the compromise introduced in the law regarding the *Istituzioni Pubbliche di Assistenza e Beneficenza* (IPAB). The IPAB are welfare organizations, most of them organized by the church and funded by private donations, which by a law passed in 1890 (the Craspi law) have been given the status of public bodies, although they retain their own statutes, their own organizational structure and their own assets. Others have been added since 1890; they are also welfare organiza-

tions belonging to the church which have applied for and obtained legal recognition under the terms of the 1890 law. The IPAB are public bodies, operating under direct state control.

Decree no 616 transfers to the communes the functions, staff and assets of all the IPAB except those which "are mainly active in the sphere of religious education." A commission to be nominated by the Government, will be charged with drawing up, within a year, a list of the IPAB which will not be handed over to the communes. The reservations and doubts of the Italian Episcopal Conference are twofold: in the first place the dissolution of the IPAB, and their transfer to the communes, which will be able in future to use them as they please, does not respect the wishes of the donors who gave their possessions to the church so that they should be used for the poor; in the second place the exemption of certain of the IPAB from the transfer—those operating in the sphere of religious education—has all the smack of benevolent privilege granted to the church by the PCI; and the church does not ask for privileges, but freedom for all, as of right under the constitution.

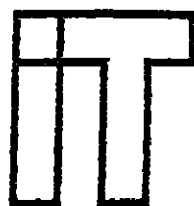
Law no 382 and decree no 616 provide other medium and long-term problems for the church. They oblige it, fortunately, to review all its welfare, educational, and health organizations so as to relate them more closely to the needs of the people, and to local programmes. Therefore the church must check whether the present organizations meet the needs of the people; whether the services rendered are valid; whether there is duplication or overlapping; and whether it would not be more meaningful, from the pastoral point of view, to abandon certain organizations and apply manpower and financial resources to newly discovered needs for which no one makes provision.

Such is the obligation facing the church in the immediate future. Caritas Italiana, in close collaboration with religious congregations, is conducting a quantitative and qualitative survey of all the welfare organizations run by the church in Italy; it will be the instrument for this enormous task of review and reconstruction.

Monsignor Nervo is vice-president of Caritas Italiana, a national charity.

TECHNICAL-ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY STUDIES
ENGINEERING
SUPPLY, ERECTION, CIVIL WORK
TRAINING OF PERSONNEL
STARTING-UP
ASSISTANCE IN OPERATION

ITALIMPIANTI
società italiana impianti p.a.



DESIGNS AND CONSTRUCTS
INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
WORLDWIDE FOR

IRON AND STEELMAKING, NONFERROUS,
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION, CEMENT,
SEAWATER DESALTING, POWER GENERATION,
FOOD, SHIPBUILDING, AUTOMOTIVE, MINING,
REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL PLANNING



ITALIMPIANTI's most recent success is the work commissioned by NISIC - National Iranian Steel Industry Co. - for the design and construction of the BANDAR ABBAS IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX, scheduled to produce 3,000,000 tons per year of liquid steel - from iron ore to finished products.

Head Office and General Management:
Piazza Piccolotta 5, 16121 Genova, Italy. Tel. 59961, Telex 27288/27282/27283/27284/27285/27286/27287/27288/27289/27290/27291/27292/27293/27294/27295/27296/27297/27298/27299/27300/27301/27302/27303/27304/27305/27306/27307/27308/27309/27310/27311/27312/27313/27314/27315/27316/27317/27318/27319/27320/27321/27322/27323/27324/27325/27326/27327/27328/27329/27330/27331/27332/27333/27334/27335/27336/27337/27338/27339/27340/27341/27342/27343/27344/27345/27346/27347/27348/27349/27350/27351/27352/27353/27354/27355/27356/27357/27358/27359/27360/27361/27362/27363/27364/27365/27366/27367/27368/27369/27370/27371/27372/27373/27374/27375/27376/27377/27378/27379/27380/27381/27382/27383/27384/27385/27386/27387/27388/27389/27390/27391/27392/27393/27394/27395/27396/27397/27398/27399/27400/27401/27402/27403/27404/27405/27406/27407/27408/27409/27410/27411/27412/27413/27414/27415/27416/27417/27418/27419/27420/27421/27422/27423/27424/27425/27426/27427/27428/27429/27430/27431/27432/27433/27434/27435/27436/27437/27438/27439/27440/27441/27442/27443/27444/27445/27446/27447/27448/27449/27450/27451/27452/27453/27454/27455/27456/27457/27458/27459/27460/27461/27462/27463/27464/27465/27466/27467/27468/27469/27470/27471/27472/27473/27474/27475/27476/27477/27478/27479/27480/27481/27482/27483/27484/27485/27486/27487/27488/27489/27490/27491/27492/27493/27494/27495/27496/27497/27498/27499/27500/27501/27502/27503/27504/27505/27506/27507/27508/27509/27510/27511/27512/27513/27514/27515/27516/27517/27518/27519/27520/27521/27522/27523/27524/27525/27526/27527/27528/27529/27530/27531/27532/27533/27534/27535/27536/27537/27538/27539/27540/27541/27542/27543/27544/27545/27546/27547/27548/27549/27550/27551/27552/27553/27554/27555/27556/27557/27558/27559/27560/27561/27562/27563/27564/27565/27566/27567/27568/27569/27570/27571/27572/27573/27574/27575/27576/27577/27578/27579/27580/27581/27582/27583/27584/27585/27586/27587/27588/27589/27590/27591/27592/27593/27594/27595/27596/27597/27598/27599/27600/27601/27602/27603/27604/27605/27606/27607/27608/27609/27610/27611/27612/27613/27614/27615/27616/27617/27618/27619/27620/27621/27622/27623/27624/27625/27626/27627/27628/27629/27630/27631/27632/27633/27634/27635/27636/27637/27638/27639/27640/27641/27642/27643/27644/27645/27646/27647/27648/27649/27650/27651/27652/27653/27654/27655/27656/27657/27658/27659/27660/27661/27662/27663/27664/27665/27666/27667/27668/27669/27670/27671/27672/27673/27674/27675/27676/27677/27678/27679/27680/27681/27682/27683/27684/27685/27686/27687/27688/27689/27690/27691/27692/27693/27694/27695/27696/27697/27698/27699/27700/27701/27702/27703/27704/27705/27706/27707/27708/27709/27710/27711/27712/27713/27714/27715/27716/27717/27718/27719/27720/27721/27722/27723/27724/27725/27726/27727/27728/27729/27730/27731/27732/27733/27734/27735/27736/27737/27738/27739/27740/27741/27742/27743/27744/27745/27746/27747/27748/27749/27750/27751/27752/27753/27754/27755/27756/27757/27758/27759/27760/27761/27762/27763/27764/27765/27766/27767/27768/27769/27770/27771/27772/27773/27774/27775/27776/27777/27778/27779/27780/27781/27782/27783/27784/27785/27786/27787/27788/27789/27790/27791/27792/27793/27794/27795/27796/27797/27798/27799/27800/27801/27802/27803/27804/27805/27806/27807/27808/27809/27810/27811/27812/27813/27814/27815/27816/27817/27818/27819/27820/27821/27822/27823/27824/27825/27826/27827/27828/27829/27830/27831/27832/27833/27834/27835/27836/27837/27838/27839/27840/27841/27842/27843/27844/27845/27846/27847/27848/27849/27850/27851/27852/27853/27854/27855/27856/27857/27858/27859/27860/27861/27862/27863/27864/27865/27866/27867/27868/27869/27870/27871/27872/27873/27874/27875/27876/27877/27878/27879/27880/27881/27882/27883/27884/27885/27886/27887/27888/27889/27890/27891/27892/27893/27894/27895/27896/27897/27898/27899/27900/27901/27902/27903/27904/27905/27906/27907/27908/27909/27910/27911/27912/27913/27914/27915/27916/27917/27918/27919/27920/27921/27922/27923/27924/27925/27926/27927/27928/27929/27930/27931/27932/27933/27934/27935/27936/27937/27938/27939/27940/27941/27942/27943/27944/27945/27946/27947/27948/27949/27950/27951/27952/27953/27954/27955/27956/27957/27958/27959/27960/27961/27962/27963/27964/27965/27966/27967/27968/27969/27970/27971/27972/27973/27974/27975/27976/27977/27978/27979/27980/27981/27982/27983/27984/27985/27986/27987/27988/27989/27990/27991/27992/27993/27994/27995/27996/27997/27998/27999/28000/28001/28002/28003/28004/28005/28006/28007/28008/28009/28010/28011/28012/28013/28014/28015/28016/28017/28018/28019/28020/28021/28022/28023/28024/28025/28026/28027/28028/28029/28030/28031/28032/28033/28034/28035/28036/28037/28038/28039/28040/28041/28042/28043/28044/28045/28046/28047/28048/28049/28050/28051/28052/28053/28054/28055/28056/28057/28058/28059/28060/28061/28062/28063/28064/28065/28066/28067/28068/28069/28070/28071/28072/28073/28074/28075/28076/28077/28078/28079/28080/28081/28082/28083/28084/28085/28086/28087/28088/28089/28090/28091/28092/28093/28094/28095/28096/28097/28098/28099/28100/28101/28102/28103/28104/28105/28106/28107/28108/28109/28110/28111/28112/28113/28114/28115/28116/28117/28118/28119/28120/28121/28122/28123/28124/28125/28126/28127/28128/28129/28130/28131/28132/28133/28134/28135/28136/28137/28138/28139/28140/28141/28142/28143/28144/28145/28146/28147/28148/28149/28150/28151/28152/28153/28154/28155/28156/28157/28158/28159/28160/28161/28162/28163/28164/28165/28166/28167/28168/28169/28170/28171/28172/28173/28174/28175/28176/28177/28178/28179/28180/28181/28182/28183/28184/28185/28186/28187/28188/28189/28190/28191/28192/28193/28194/28195/28196/28197/28198/28199/28200/28201/28202/28203/28204/28205/28206/28207/28208/28209/28210/28211/28212/28213/28214/28215/28216/28217/28218/28219/28220/28221/28222/28223/28224/28225/28226/28227/28228/28229/28230/28231/28232/28233/28234/28235/28236/28237/28238/28239/28240/28241/28242/28243/28244/28245/28246/28247/28248/28249/28250/28251/28252/28253/28254/28255/28256/28257/28258/28259/28260/28261/28262/28263/28264/28265/28266/28267/28268/28269/28270/28271/28272/28273/28274/28275/28276/28277/28278/28279/28280/28281/28282/28283/28284/28285/28286/28287/28288/28289/28290/28291/28292/28293/28294/28295/28296/28297/28298/28299/28300/28301/28302/28303/28304/28305/28306/28307/28308/28309/28310/28311/28312/28313/28314/28315/28316/28317/28318/28319/28320/28321/28322/28323/28324/28325/28326/28327/28328/28329/28330/28331/28332/28333/28334/28335/28336/28337/28338/28339/28340/28341/28342/28343/28344/28345/28346/28347/28348/28349/28350/28351/28352/28353/28354/28355/28356/28357/28358/28359/28360/28361/28362/28363/28364/28365/28366/28367/28368/28369/28370/28371/28372/28373/28374/28375/28376/28377/28378/28379/28380/28381/28382/28383/28384/28385/28386/28387/28388/28389/28390/28391/28392/28393/28394/28395/28396/28397/28398/28399/28400/28401/28402/28403/28404/28405/28406/28407/28408/28409/28410/28411/28412/28413/28414/28415/28416/28417/28418/28419/28420/28421/28422/28423/28424/28425/28426/28427/28428/28429/28430/28431/28432/28433/28434/28435/28436/28437/28438/28439/28440/28441/28442/28443/28444/28445/28446/28447/28448/28449/28450/28451/28452/28453/28454/28455/28456/28457/28458/28459/28460/28461/28462/28463/28464/28465/28466/28467/28468/28469/28470/28471/28472/28473/28474/28475/28476/28477/28478/28479/28480/28481/28482/28483/28484/28485/28486/28487/28488/28489/28490/28491/284

RAI rules the national waves and fights back locally

by David Willey

The proliferation of local radio and television in Italy has taken RAI, the state broadcasting monopoly, by surprise. While regional broadcasting on television is only in the planning stage and regional radio broadcasts consist mainly of a couple of daily local news bulletins, local commercial stations have been springing up all over the country. Some 600 local independent radio stations and about 70 local television stations are now feeding a daily diet

of pop music and old films to audiences which must number many millions although no exact audience research figures exist.

This development was the result of a decision of the Italian Constitutional Court in July, 1976, that while the state network had a monopoly on national broadcasting frequencies it did not enjoy that privilege for local transmissions.

New legislation is now being prepared which will bring some order among the disturbed air waves, and RAI, in the throes of a big reorganization, is planning to expand regional broadcasting by investing some

£60m over the next 12 months in new television and radio studios, equipment and radio links and transmitters.

The major slice of over £10m will go for preliminary work on a third television channel, due to start transmissions on January 1, 1979. The plan is that each of Italy's 20 administrative regions will have its own transmitter and originate part of its own programming. There will be two channels every day on the new channel of which half an hour will be devoted to regional news. The first 10 minutes will be regional items considered

of national interest, and the remainder of the half-hour will consist of purely local items, for local transmission.

The director of the new regional television channel is Professor Giuseppe Rosini, a former head of school broadcasting and adult education in RAI, who took the place of Signor Fabio Fabiani, nominated director earlier in the year and then quickly promoted to the post of assistant director-general of the state broadcasting network. It appears doubtful whether the new channel will be operational on schedule because of the big engineering problems in linking the 21 different regional broadcasting centres by microwave and coaxial cables.

The plan is for each of the 20 regions to have its own production and broadcasting centre in the regional capital while the German-speaking region of Alto Adige will have two studios, one in Bolzano and one in Trento, making 21.

Whether the spreading of staff and investment over 17,500 hours a year at present. They are of two sorts. In most regions there are 50 minutes of local news broadcast in two segments before and after lunch. This is supplemented by a few broad-

casts of local folklore and music.

RAI's main local broadcasting effort is concentrated on linguistic minorities in the border areas. There are French transmissions for inhabitants of the Alps, and d'Aosta in the Valle d'Aosta daily radio programme in German for the German-speaking population of Alto Adige and in Slovene for the people around Trieste.

Other parts of Italy which get more regional radio than the rest are the islands of Sicily and Sardinia. Local choirs, broadcasts in dialect, advice on local health problems and up to four local

newscasts are the daily offering advertised in *Radiocorriere*, the Italian equivalent of *Radio Times*.

The only regional television transmission carried out by RAI at present is a daily programme of news lasting an hour and three-quarters, children's features and magazine-type programmes put out in German by the Bolzano transmitter.

One unknown factor in the future of local broadcasting in Italy by RAI is the extent to which the political manipulation of the organization which takes place in Rome will be repeated at a local level to the benefit of left-wing regional governments. The monopoly which has

been exercised for many years inside RAI by the ruling Christian Democrat Party has ended and the Italian Communists are busy claiming their fair share of top appointments within the organization.

The Communists see the forthcoming development of local radio and television broadcasting by RAI as an excellent opportunity to gain a secure foothold in broadcasting. As many of Italy's regions are now run by communist-led administrations, communist policy appears to be to concentrate propaganda efforts at the local level.

The author is Rome correspondent of the BBC

Tourism struggles in straitjacket

by Mary Venturini

Italy is just recovering from one of its best tourist seasons. Even in the unfashionable first half of the year the number of visitors was up 20 per cent and although there are no official figures yet for July and August they are known to have been record months.

Behind the brilliant facade, however, the Italian tourist industry has been struggling with new organizational difficulties which have prevented the country from making the most of its potential.

The recent regional reforms have shifted the administrative responsibility for tourism from the Ministry for Tourism and Entertainment to the regional authorities. Inside Italy, therefore, the regions reign almost supreme. Abroad however, the point where the

most lucrative tourism begins, the ministry remains in control. It still retains the responsibility for attracting the overseas customers through its operational arm, ENIT.

And it is here, in the division of responsibilities between the regional and the central authorities, that the potential difficulties arise. If the ministry is to succeed in its functions it must attract tourists to Italy. The regions meanwhile think of success in terms of their own immediate boundaries.

In their first flush of enthusiasm the regions have been eager to use their newfound powers to the full. As far as tourism is concerned this has meant throwing off what remains of the centralized system, whether the old unified method of hotel classification or the long established administrative structure which ran from the

small local office through the relevant provincial and regional bodies up to the headquarters in Rome.

The old bureaucratic structure will probably gain from a good shake-out. A diversification of hotel classifications would, however, only cause confusion, particularly when the EEC is trying to agree on one system for all its members.

Regional tourism at its worst means regional jealousy, a waste of resources and an uncoordinated chase after potential travellers. Lake Garda in northern Italy, for example, falls between three different regions, Lombardy, Trentino and the Veneto. Much could be made of lake transport but development has been held back because of regional jealousies over ferry operations.

Inexperience has also led to such mistakes as the visit of a Tuscan tourist delegation to Somalia or the equally unfortunate incident when two separate Friuli delegations—one on behalf of the earthquake victims and the other for tourism—launched their American campaigns not only in the same city but on the same day.

It is this sort of upset that the ministry is hoping to overcome. Exactly how it will be done is still subject to political debate. It is, however, hoped that it will be possible to draw up regulations. If not a law, which will oblige the regions to coordinate many of their efforts with the more experienced ministry and with ENIT.

It is a particularly delicate moment for both the central government bodies. But, while they are perhaps over-conscious of not stepping on any regional toes, they would also appear to be

pleased with their new opportunities. Grateful to be rid of previous day-to-day administration such as licensing hotels, Signor Dario Antonozzi, the minister, is now able to concentrate on the broader picture.

One concern is to prevent the rich regions like Lombardy, Tuscany and Emilia-Romagna, growing even richer, thanks to their solidly based tourist trade, while the poorer areas such as Calabria, Molise, Sicily, and Campania are condemned to seemingly unending poverty as a result of their lack of finance.

Another aim is to extend the season over the full year. Italy has more hotel beds than any other European country but these are used only 35 per cent of the

year, or only 29 per cent in the south.

Signor Antonozzi is hoping to get EEC backing for a plan to stagger industrial holidays. He is also working on a joint community approach to tourism in order to attract new visitors and to persuade the one-country tourist to go for a full European tour.

An idea put forward by ENIT under its new director-general is the project-based holiday—the gastronomic tour, the archaeological holiday, the mountains, the health spas, the Renaissance cities.

It is hoped that these will attract a new kind of tourist and will have the added advantage of ensuring the different regions a share of the same pie. Clearly, however, this will require a high degree of co-operation, something which it is perhaps still too early to expect.

Historic error

continued from page 1

has a population approaching nine million while Molise has about 300,000. Wealth is unevenly distributed. If the national average income of each inhabitant is 100, the figure for Calabria is less than 52 while in Liguria it is 137. But the aim nevertheless is to rediscover Italy's traditional heritage of self-government, where it is still extant and to foster it where it is not a part of the local tradition.

In the case of five regions—all islands or border territories—with special statutes of their own which are wider than those of the other 15, the institution was intended to counteract separatist feeling. Four of these special regions, Sicily, Sardinia, Valle d'Aosta and Trentino-Alto Adige, were established between 1946 and 1949 and one, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, in 1963. They were areas regarded as requiring more urgently their regional treatment.

No one would pretend that regionalism in Italy has been an untroubled story of success. Scandals and corruption had their part. Violence marked the baptism of both the Calabria and the Abruzzi regions. The hope of creating a new class of civil servants and politicians free of the traditional faults of both has not been fulfilled.

The full period of regionalism came too late. By the time the 15 ordinary regions were set on their various ways, the period of economic expansion was over and the impetus which increasing prosperity might have given was lacking. Inflation is cutting heavily into the means placed at the disposal of regional administrations.

Not only was there a long period spent in creating the full regional pattern—22 years—but reluctance was frequently shown at the centre to give a generous reading of the constitutional powers granted to the regions. And, more surprisingly perhaps, the regions themselves have behaved as if they themselves did not really believe that the days of the centralized state were supposed to be over.

The law finally defining regional powers which came into force last July found a number of regions unprepared to take on the new responsibilities facing them, especially in health and welfare. And it immediately ran into the criticisms of the ecclesiastical hierarchy which saw it as an unwarranted interference in the traditional role of Catholic charities and other bodies connected with the Church, which in the past filled many gaps left by the ineffectual state.

Nevertheless, the adventure has begun and in a Europe increasingly feeling the claims of local feeling to greater means of expression whether it be Provence, or Brittany, Scotland or the Wallons or the Basques, it deserves to be watched with the closest attention.

The next report in this occasional series, on Emilia-Romagna, will be published on January 20



TRENTINO

Trento is for all, but especially for you

You are young and like the intense life. There's a lot that Trento will do for you: making new friends in the many discotheques, all winter sports and lots of snow. Come to Trento. You'll be grateful for the suggestion.



Trento is the name of your holidays.

For information: Italian State Tourist Office (ENIT)—201 Regent Street LONDON W1R 8AY—Phone 439 2311
or in Italy—Provincia Autonoma di Trento—Assessorato al Turismo—C.so 3 Novembre, 132—1 38100 TRENTO—Phone 80000



come to UMBRIA Italy's green heart

There you will find seven hundred historical centres, mountains, lakes, hills, a lot of green and silence and one hundred and sixty cultural and folklore events including:

FESTIVAL DEI DUE MONDI (June-July)
SAGRA MUSICALE (September)



A new holiday in an ancient, different land—Umbria
For information:
REGIONE UMBRIA
Assessorato al Turismo - PERUGIA (Italy)

Liguria is colour Lots of colours for lots of different holidays



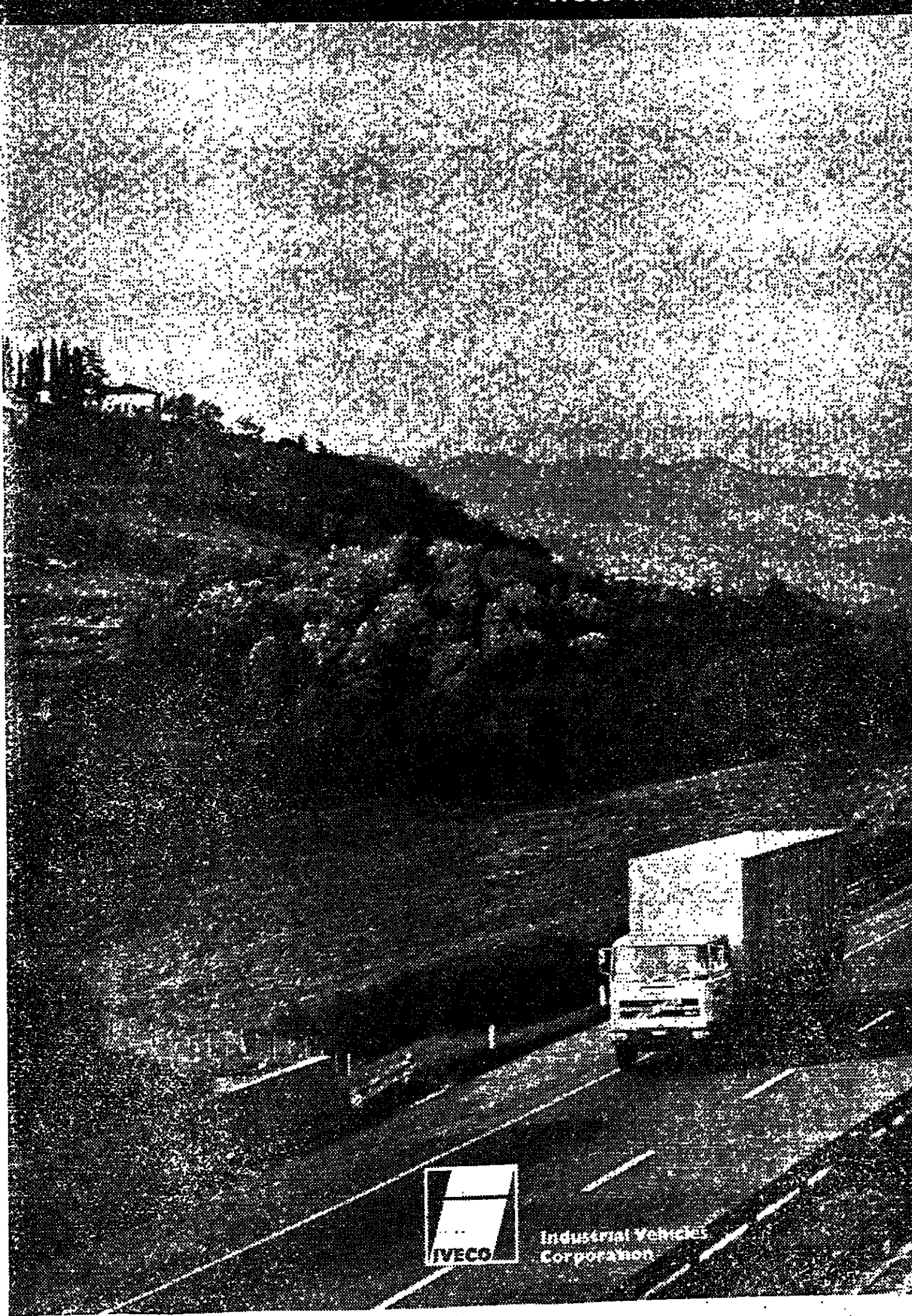
Regione Liguria
Turismo

Yellow is for folklore ★ Green is for the and handicrafts ★ countryside
Red is for art, history ★ White is for the mountains and culture and winter sports
Orange is for wine and ★ Blue is for the sea, off-shore activities, skin diving and the beaches

Information from: Regione Liguria, Assessorato Turismo, Genova (ITALY)

A truck crossing a continent. A van crossing a city. A bus carrying tourists, or workers, or schoolchildren. Vehicles named Fiat, OM, Lancia, Unic, Magirus-Deutz. This is the world of Iveco.

Iveco: a world of experience.



Industrial Vehicles
Corporation

هلا من الاصل



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SHOULD THE DOLLAR SINK?

The present turmoil in the world's currency markets will not be easily resolved. It is the result of a genuine disagreement between the leaders of the industrialised world on the best way to solve the world's economic problems of continuing slow growth, high unemployment and yet persistent inflation.

The different view taken on either side of the Atlantic on the dollar's decline is a reflection of this. It has become clear in the past 10 days that the American Government's policy of "benign neglect" is a deliberate one. As the dollar has dropped rapidly from record low to record low, the pressure for concerted international efforts to halt the decline has mounted. Those countries whose own currencies have been subject to most "benign neglect"—chiefly the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the Netherlands—have become more vocal in their opposition to the dollar's fall. First at the secret meeting of finance ministers in Paris 10 days ago, and then again in London this week, the Americans have been urged to throw their weight behind the European effort to stabilize the foreign exchange markets. They have politely declined.

There are good reasons why they should do so. The weakness of the dollar has been a major cause of the massive and widening trade deficit which America is running with the rest of the world. This has been a major source of expansion for other countries, notwithstanding the large oil element in the deficit. America has provided a market for foreigners whose own domestic growth has been insufficient to provide jobs for all. But there is unemployment in the United States too. A growing

protectionist lobby is putting pressure on the Administration to stop the incursion into the domestic market of foreign imports. The government believes that the way to solve this is for the surplus countries—Germany and Japan in particular—to boost their domestic growth. This would encourage imports from America and divert some of the present export effort in these countries away from the United States market. However, American exhortations to this effect, in successive international meetings, have been unheeded and so the trade gap has widened. The resulting fall in the dollar is proving a far more effective weapon than mere words.

The governments of Germany and Japan are frightened by the damaging effects that the sharp rise in their currencies could have on their domestic economies. The Americans' hope is that this will force them into expansion. It is of little use to complain, as the Germans have, that American policy towards the dollar is jeopardizing economic growth elsewhere. That growth must be the responsibility of other governments, say the Americans. They can no longer pull the world out of slump.

The present delicate stage in the trade negotiations with the Japanese means that the Carter Administration is particularly unwilling to contemplate large-scale support for the dollar at this stage. Central bankers are anyway intervening massively on the exchanges. If the Americans joined in, possibly by activating their \$20,000m or so of swap lines, this would be tantamount to underwriting the favourable payments positions of their

trading partners. They do not want to do that until they have gained the maximum concessions on trade from the Japanese and others. In Europe, the Germans and the Swiss are far more worried about the sinking dollar than the British. German competitiveness is deteriorating rapidly while a rising mark is actually helping British exporters more than they are hurt by the weaker dollar.

The Americans are playing a strong hand. Exchange rate changes have a minimal effect on their economy as trade is only a small proportion of GNP. The damaging effects on inflation are further curtailed by the pricing of their major imports—oil—in depreciating dollars. Therein lies the rub. One major risk in the present United States policy is its potential effect on the oil price. It is unlikely to affect the price of oil, which will come out of the present Opec talks, but it is certain to undermine the moderates in the future. Pricing may well be switched to a basket of currencies. The other risk is that the oil funds which now flow into the United States, covering the current deficit, will begin to go elsewhere. The disruption this would cause to the international financial system would dwarf the present upsets.

While the American Government continues to judge the balance of risks to be in favour of "benign neglect" there is little that the rest of the industrialized world can do to change their minds. Their best policy is probably to bow to the inevitable and boost their own growth as far as they can, while hoping that the usually generous Americans will help them once they have made their intentions clear.

NO CASE FOR UNIONS IN THE ARMED FORCES

Mr Mulley as Defence Secretary recently said that he had no objection to members of the armed forces seeking trade union representation. What exactly he had in mind remains unclear. However, his remarks have reawakened the interest of a number of unions who can see a mutual advantage in recruiting from the ranks—and one or two have put out exploratory feelers. With the Defence Secretary himself giving his apparent blessing and with members of the forces unhappy over their pay and conditions, the ground could hardly be more fertile. It seems appropriate to examine both the possibilities and the consequences.

Mr Mulley's statement was ambiguous because servicemen are already allowed to join trade unions and are, in theory, encouraged to do so. This is because union membership might make it easier for them to find jobs on their return to civilian life. It also enables "handmen, who join the Musicians' Union, to accept outside engagements during their spare time. They are not allowed, however, to negotiate through their unions over pay, still less to strike or otherwise interfere with the normal procedures of service life. The advantages are therefore not obvious, and while

the number of those who take up the option is not known, it is not thought to be very large. The inference must be that Mr Mulley was referring to the far wider issue, that indeed he has no objection to members of the forces joining a union and having that union represent them in negotiations over pay and conditions. This would still not necessarily endow them with the right to strike. But it would enable the men to have their say for improvement put before the Government with some force.

One solution would be for servicemen to join existing unions. But this would be difficult if only because they represent a wide spectrum of crafts and skills. The alternative would be to form a new union or professional association, which would look after service interests specifically. The Police Federation is the model which obviously springs to mind. This would not necessarily negotiate over pay and conditions directly with the Government, but could make representations to the independent Armed Forces Pay Review Body—which already exists. One might envisage the sort of machinery which is used to determine doctors' pay—with the British Medical Association and the Department of Health making representations to an independent

review body—which then reports to the Prime Minister. (Though it is worth remarking that many doctors are not very happy with that system either.)

But it is hard to see how such an organization could exist without in time changing fundamentally the non-political character and the code of disciplinary behaviour of the armed forces. Their loyalty could only be impaired by being divided. True, the Dutch and West German armies have their unions, but they are different armies from our own—and they would arguably be more efficient without them. Moreover, do the services want union representation? There is no serious evidence that they do. Certainly they now feel under-represented and, for a time, the civilian unions flex their industrial muscle to win more pay and better conditions. But this dissatisfaction, however deeply felt, has not so far been crystallized into a general call for union representation. It remains within the power of the Government to remove the cause of this discontent by showing more sympathy and more flexibility than it has so far. More sensitive handling of the machinery would remove the need for finding a substitute—and would in the end be a preferable alternative.

NO SALADINS FOR EL SALVADOR

There are no absolute principles governing the sale of arms where the buyer is not an ally nor deemed to be a friendly power. In such cases commercial benefit will be foremost but must be weighed against strategic or political and moral restraints. Sometimes the strategic interest which tells against arms sales is indirect but no less significant. Frequently in cases of political objection the government, as undemocratic, given to severe repression and torture and may even want the goods to further such ends.

Why, then, is Britain selling surplus armoured vehicles to El Salvador? For years past this Government has been as nasty as the worst in Latin America, brutally repressive, given to the murder of opponents and to torture of those detained. That this behaviour is confined to the irreconcilable extremists of left and right whose methods are

equally brutal is disproved by the number of Roman Catholic priests among those held as subversives. What can three Ferraris and twelve Saladins no longer needed in Ulster be wanted for?

In Parliament last week Lord Goronwy-Roberts tried to ask questions of the Foreign Secretary. He admitted that El Salvador's declared support for Guatemala's claim against British Honduras but said that the British Government had required and been given an assurance that there was no possibility of these vehicles being used against British troops in Belize. Lord Goronwy-Roberts claimed that the new government of President Romero has been showing signs of following a different policy and it would be discouraging to his efforts to cancel the sale. President Romero faced grave danger from terrorists on the extreme left. As if allowing that this defence was not wholly con-

vincing it was added that the deal was very small—a mere £850,000.

It might be asked why Britain is not following President Carter's example, who suspended military aid to El Salvador last March. If our country has a strategic interest in central America it is the United States. In any case President Romero's progressive and pacific intentions seem already to have petered out since he took office. Most reports from El Salvador agree that in the past three months repression has been as brutal as ever. There are no signs of the tension in the country getting any less. There must be more worthy customers for these second-hand vehicles than all-party motion now seeks to have the deal cancelled. At least delivery should be deferred until President Romero has shown that his government meets civilized standards.

NHS spending

From Mr R. D. Wilkins
Sir, There have been disturbing reports in the press recently about the inadequate facilities made available in this country in order to provide sufficient dialysis machines for those people who have chronic, life-threatening kidney disease. Due to lack of money such machines are scarce and many patients, especially children and the middle aged, have little hope of treatment, and yet it has been estimated that only £30m is needed to provide such a machine to every patient who needs one. I recently received a circular from the Department of Health and Social Security which told doctors that the bill to the government for providing appetite suppressants on prescription in 1975 was £34m. Prompted by this information I contacted the DHSS to find out the cost of other essential medicines. The figures were as follows:
Cough suppressants £11.1 million
Vitamin B (excluding iron) £2.8 million
Tonics £497,000.
All these figures relate to 1975.

I deliberately omitted to ask about more contentious items such as tranquilizers and sleeping tablets.

While I appreciate many virtues in our concept of a National Health Service I am quite unable to defend a system which allows people to die because of lack of money for dialysis machines when at the same time vast amounts are spent on medicines that the majority of the population could well afford to buy. Any health service must surely get its priorities right.
Yours sincerely,
R. D. WILKINS,
River House,
Leigh Place,
Stoke Road,
Cobham,
Surrey.
December 3.

Heavy breathing

From Lord Donaldson
Sir, Like Sir Frank Cooper (letter, December 9) I was cut to the quick by your diarist's suggestion that I find any difficulty in climbing 11 flights of stairs to my office. I have

been doing this once or twice a day for five weeks. My time three, three and a half to four minutes. If your diarist would like to take me on, I'll race him on any day of the week.
I am, &c,
DONALDSON,
House of Lords,
December 9.

In Regent's Park

From Mr Nicholas Treadwell
Sir, I am another of those who walk in Regent's Park daily, but unlike Mr Brown (letter, December 6), I am delighted with the "imposition" of Nicholas Monro's marvellous larger than life sculpture of Morecombe and Wise. As well as demonstrating the vitality of British sculpture in the seventies, it suggests that although life has its depressing elements today, we Londoners are managing to keep our sense of humour.
Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS TREADWELL,
36 Chiltern Street, W1,
December 7.

The Crown Agents inquiry

From Sir Claude Hayes
Sir, Nearly nine days ago Sir Harold Wilson asked me to say whether in 1972 Mrs Hart came to him with "horrifying" documentation on subterranean matters in connection with the Crown Agents, and that she ran into the most formidable system of fortification, a closing of the ranks, a cover up.
No doubt this will be the subject of careful investigation by the new tribunal of inquiry. But that may not be for months. Meanwhile it might be thought that the management of the Crown Agents at the time were a party to such a cover up and to those who were, where there are no antibodies.
I therefore owe it to the staff of the Crown Agents to say now that nothing was ever brought to my notice, officially or confidentially, which would lead me to believe that I was in any way involved with what Sir Harold Wilson now relates.
Yours faithfully,
C. J. HAYES,
Chiddingfold House,
Edinburgh,
Kent.
December 12.

Fixing farm prices

From Mr R. C. Leventhorpe
Sir, The Ministry of Agriculture has just announced the price that milk producers will receive for the first three months of 1978. The annual sum is still far from clear but appears to be between 49 and 50 pence per gallon (like some Yorkshire rebels and the majority of ordinary people I still think and work in imperial measurement).
May Mr Silkin give us a promise as politicians ever do that the price from January to March would be 52 pence a gallon. The Milk Marketing Board, in its innocence, therefore fixed a sum for the first three months of the year of the "award"—already delayed for two months for 1977/78, an award that covered only half the increased costs in the previous year and took a portion of the current year's inflation of about 15 per cent.

Now the MMB are forced to cut back the price paid to producers for the next four months by two pence per gallon at the height of the expensive winter milk period so that producers will receive no more than the inadequate returns of last winter. I will cite just two examples of increased costs. A well deserved agricultural wages award of 13 per cent, giving a minimum wage of £44 and opposed by the Minister, which will add one penny per gallon to cost immediately, and a 10 to 15 per cent increase in fertilizer costs, already under price code rules and partly due to the increased oil cost to transport the North Sea gas contract, adding over the year approximately another half penny. Our case is never submitted to the Prices Commission.

Agriculture remains, and will probably always remain, the largest industry but could any other industry compete with Europe against a 30 per cent discount on its receipts imposed by the green pound? More and more farmers will be driven to the pig and poultry last summer, beef production currently, and milk producers next summer, while foreign buyers snap up our land, confident that the Olympian indifference of our Minister of Food (surely not of agriculture) cannot be indefinitely.
Yours faithfully,
R. C. LEVENTHORPE,
Risdon Farm,
Inverleigh,
Okehampton,
Devon.

Attack on National Front

From Mr Peter Bazalgette
Sir, The Labour Party's political broadcast last week may have been misdirected—members of the National Front no doubt welcomed its hysteria as a free panegyric, while their potential members (at least those who were aimed) are too young to be much shaken by fossilized clips of Hitler and Mussolini. But it is nevertheless laudable that the Labour Party has now devised two political broadcasts for the National Front and its disaffected, derisively simplistic policies.

While Conservative MPs mouth their own condemnations one feels they can hardly conceal their glee at what the Front's next move comes from. Those who say it is better not to mention the National Front at all would do well to consider that it will be fielding over 20 candidates at the next general election—a little late to start the argument then.

An effective campaign is needed. I suggest, Sir, that it should be carried out by the parties represented in Parliament making a party political broadcast soberly attacking the National Front. Is this likely to happen? Judging by the way they normally conduct their business, no. But by the same token, what an effort it would have if they did. And with reference to your leader (December 9)—let the National Front try to reply, by all means.
Yours faithfully,
PETER BAZALGETTE,
United Oxford and Cambridge University Club,
71 Pall Mall, S.W.1,
December 12.

European Elections

It was said in a leading article in *The Times* yesterday that Britain would have to fall into line when the European Parliament decides on a "uniform system for European elections. That is not so. Article 138 (3) of the Treaty of Rome states: "The Assembly shall draw up proposals for elections by direct universal suffrage in accordance with a uniform procedure in all member states. The Council (of Ministers) shall, acting unanimously lay down the appropriate provisions, which it shall recommend to member states for adoption in accordance with the respective constitutional requirements."

Role of water in a Middle East peace

From Mr Edmund de Rothschild
Sir, Water is precious in the Middle East. It can help to lay the dust of war and to smooth the path to peace.

Shortly after the Six Day War you published a letter from me on June 28, 1967, in which some ideas were put forward for the construction of desalinating plants which could contribute to the economic and social welfare of all the peoples of the Middle East. These ideas attracted some interest, not only here but also in the United States, Israel and some Arab countries. They were discussed with representative people from many lands. Unfortunately, political obstacles have so far prevented any progress. But the latest developments suggest that the time may have come to draw attention to these ideas again. Even if economic actions alone cannot bring peace nearer, the new political climate may make it easier to take active steps in welfare and social fields. This could move towards solving some of the pressing human problems which are disrupting and disturbing to so many of us.

Specifically, consideration might now usefully be given to three projects. A desalinating plant in one of the more fertile parts of the Sinai peninsula, perhaps using the new technological breakthrough attributed to Professor Kogan of the the Israel Institute of Technology,

could well contribute to the prosperity of that region. The cost is still comparable with what would have been possible 10 years ago. Secondly, a canal from the Mediterranean down to the Qattara depression, supplemented by water from the underground aquifer of the area, could be combined with a dual purpose desalinating and power plant to fertilize many acres of Egyptian land for agriculture.

Thirdly, there could be a new look at the Lowdermilk plan of a similar scheme in the Jordan Valley. Sea water from the Mediterranean would be pumped over the height of land to the Dead Sea, used to produce electricity and, after desalinating, used for irrigation in the Ghor Valley.

There may well be other places in the Middle East where similar ideas could be applied to advantage. None of these projects would be cheap in money terms. But set against the human cost of the last 30 years, they, which surely repay economic pursuit which would lead to be transnationally, or even internationally, organized.

We have seen some imaginative moves in the last month. May not imagination range wider still? Yours faithfully,
EDMUND DE ROTHSCHILD,
New Court,
St Swinburn's Lane, EC4.

Documentary on S Africa

From Lord Windlesham
Sir, Sir Hugh Greenham's letter published in your correspondence column on December 9 is a reminder of the pressures on broadcasters that are exerted from time to time by government. But there can also be pressures from other sources, commercial or otherwise. Of which a recent example has been the campaign waged by Tate and Lyle against a documentary programme written and produced for ATV by Antony Thomas. This is the programme in the series *The South African Experience* entitled "Working for Britain". The programme is due to be shown on Independent Television on Wednesday, December 14 at 7 pm (and is I understand, the subject of advertisements that, day in, the national press, placed by Tate and Lyle).

What lies behind this over-pressure is that Tate and Lyle have made clear they believe the commercial interests of their company may be harmed by the programme. They have asked, indeed demanded, would not be too strong a word, that reference to the company in the South Africa should be deleted from the programme. It would not be right to accede to this request.

Tate and Lyle have also questioned the statements by Antony Thomas to film statements by Africans working on a sugar estate in Natal which was part-owned by their company at the time. Although he has subsequently been sold, Mr John Lyle has been quoted as describing the statements as "fakes and distortions". After making detailed enquiries into these allegations, and seeing the whole of the material filmed on location, I agreed with the producer to omit three statements from the completed film. This was not because we concluded they were faked, but simply because the historical concerns had not been in the presence of Antony Thomas throughout the filming. It seemed stronger therefore to rely solely upon the statements of those who were. Mr Lyle was an experienced and reliable producer, was the only person involved in the controversy who was

present when the disputed filming took place. Each of the people appearing in the edited sequence of the film was selected by him personally, immediately prior to filming, and he put the questions himself. He categorically denies that any interviews were rigged or deliberately falsified.

An independent authority at the School of African and African Studies at London University who has conducted ethnographic and linguistic research among the Zulu has expressed the opinion that the statements were entirely spontaneous and natural. He disagrees with any suggestion that the answers had been scripted, rehearsed or in any other way prepared in advance.

An invitation has been extended to a representative of Tate and Lyle to take part in the fourth programme in the series in order that the company might have an opportunity to reply. This proposal, I might add, was made some weeks ago and well before the dispute over last week's Labour Party political broadcast attacking the National Front. So far the offer has not been taken up.

My final observation concerns the appropriateness of the company of Tate and Lyle's standing and influence causing affidavits to be taken under oath from African workers. None of the Africans who appear in this part of the programme are black speaking, although the affidavits are set out in English, and some are signed with a mark or finger print. Some individuals were also photographed in connection with sworn statements which were sought by someone whom they could have regarded as their employer or an agent acting on his behalf. It is for others to judge the validity of evidence obtained in this way and subsequently used for the purposes of a public relations campaign by a major firm in Britain.

On Wednesday the programme will be shown on ITV and the public will be able to reach its own conclusion.

Yours faithfully,
WINDLESHAM,
ATV House,
17 Great Cumberland Place, W1.

Restoring Stanmore Hall

From Mr Arthur Grogan
Sir, The most important series of tapestries ever to have been designed and woven in England is shortly to be auctioned. They illustrate the legend of the "Quest for the Holy Grail" and were designed by Edward Burne Jones and made at William Morris's workshops at Merton Abbey in the 1880s.

Clearly they should pass into a public collection, but where? The obvious place, surely, is Stanmore Hall on the northern outskirts of London, the house for which they were created. The house, which here the best domestic scheme of decoration he was ever commissioned to do and like many such admired, similar schemes by Robert Adam, it was inserted into an existing building of lesser interest. The coordinating architect was Leathby and the work has survived to a remarkable extent, which is "unmatched elsewhere. What is more, the house has lain empty for a number of years and is now on the market.

Of course it would cost money to buy and restore it, but there is a current search for houses and associated contents which, ranking

more highly than Merton, can be accepted as worthy of preservation at a national level. Here is a candidate of outstanding worth which could become an out-station of the Victoria and Albert Museum (like Hampton and Osterley). The Museum already owns the tapestries, and Morris's firm and one of his finest carpets which cannot be shown for lack of space. The original appearance of the rooms at Stanmore is fully recorded in photographs and could easily be restored.

That William Morris and what he stood for are now of interest to a very wide range of people is proved by the crowds that visit his own houses at New York, Red House, Kelmscott, Even the house from which I write, by Morris's architect, Philip Webb, with no direct contribution from the great man himself. In its first year of operation the National Trust attracted double the number of visitors expected.

Stanmore Hall could be a much greater success and many of its rooms have come from abroad. Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR GROGAN,
The National Trust,
Stander,
Green, Grinstead,
West Sussex,
December 7.

Sexist language

From Miss Casey Miller and Miss Kate Swift

Sir, In commenting on your book *Words and Women* (*The Times*, November 24, "Feminists at a loss for French words"), Patrick Brogan disputes our thesis that sexist language contributes to "downgrading women, and he labels this thesis a further illustration of American parochialism. What is more, parochialism he quotes a paragraph from *Words and Women* in which we list several English words ending in -ess that were imported from France in the years following the Norman invasion. Evidently, the authors cannot speak French."

The assumption that twelfth-century French was spoken in the eleventh and twelfth centuries is both parochial and naïve. Evidently Brogan is not familiar with Old French, in which the words were indeed *femmes* and *survives* as he would have learned had he bothered to check our footnote. (See entry at -ess in the *Oxford English Dictionary*.)

Brogan's contention that sexist language is impossible in French, German, and Spanish is equally ill-

informed. When nouns referring to people have both masculine and feminine forms in these languages (*président, présidente*, to use one of Brogan's examples), the masculine and the generic, or standard human, forms are the same; the feminine is the deviation, the exception. In the case of *présidente* the term can even be understood to refer to the (male) president's wife.

On this side of the Atlantic we tend to have great respect for *The Times*. One cannot help wondering, however, why its editors would print opinions on language from a correspondent who is so misinformed as to write "Gender, in French and in other romance languages... is immutable. Linguists know that gender, like every other aspect of any living language, is subject to change. On gender mutability in his favourite tongue, French, Brogan might consult the renowned linguistic authority Otto Jespersen, who discussed the subject in his book *The Philosophy of Grammar*, London: George Allen and Unwin Ltd, 1951, Chapter 18, "Sex and Gender". Sincerely,
CASEY MILLER,
KATE SWIFT,
Box 94, East Haddam,
Connecticut 06423,
December 9.

Absenteeism in the House

From Mr Robin Hodgson, MP for Walsall North (Conservative)

Sir, The superficiality of your leader on Friday, "Absenteeism in the House" tempts me to draw the conclusion that you were so pleased with your Gallery Reporter's piece of "clever" reporting, in Thursday's paper, that you had to find some way of repeating it.

The question you should have posed and which, not unnaturally, you avoided, since the answer was unfavourable to your case, was whether any of the debates came to a premature end. If such collapses had occurred it would have given at least prima facie evidence of a lack of interest. In the event no such collapses have taken place and it is hard to see how the presence, one, two, three or even four hundred members of Parliament, over ninety per cent of whom could have no hope of making any contribution because of the action of the gulliforme, could lead to any increase in the appropriate rigour of scrutiny of the Scotland Bill which you demand.

Instead many Members, including myself, believe that we are better engaged in examining other pieces of government legislation, considering and representing our constituency interests etc., rather than sitting mute on the benches of the Chamber of the House of Commons.

Few people would deny that change, even radical change, is required at Westminster. However, the cause of reform would be better served if you turned your mind to really critical issues such as the need to restore the separation of the executive from the legislature and so reassess the traditional check and balance of our constitution. No similarly useful result can come from the critical sorkkeeping that your leader last Friday represents. Yours faithfully,
ROBIN HODGSON,
House of Commons
December 12.

Christmas on ITV

From Mr Charles G. Looker
Sir, Under the heading "ITV defend its Christmas" in your report in today's *The Times* (December 9) the following passage must be the quotation of the year 1977.

"Mr Paul Fox (Yorkshire) pointed out that as Christmas Day falls on a Sunday for the first time for several years 'we had better have a bit of religion in the evening'." Yours faithfully,
CHARLES G. LOOKER,
46 Lavender Vale,
Wellingdon,
Sussex
December 9.

Dissenting library

From Mr John Creasey
Sir, It is good to learn (December 8) that the Methodist archives now transferred to the John Rylands University Library of Manchester and that one may presumably direct research students and others to them in their new home. Let us, however, be thought that all who study English Nonconformity and Dissent must now, like the Methodist archives, travel to Manchester may I put in a word for Dr Williams's Library, a venerable dissenting institution, which will celebrate in 1979 two hundred and fifty years of life.

The collections here constitute what is probably the prime source for the history of English Presbyterianism and the Unitarianism into which it largely developed. Much material may also be found here on the Independent/Congregational tradition. This last has been greatly augmented by the donation of around 12,000 items from the library of New College, London, on the closure of that institution earlier this year, including all surviving books from the library as well as several dissenting academics and their predecessors which coscled in New College in 1850.

Together with printed books are extensive manuscript collections in the above named traditions, which include the entire New College, London, collection. Yours faithfully,
JOHN CREASEY,
Dr Williams's Library,
14 Gordon Square, WC1,
December 9.

King Canute

From Mr James Clark

Sir, May one put a plea for King Canute's good name? It is now normal for television speakers and politicians to use King Canute as the example of a foolish man who tried to order the tide to stop advancing. I do not have to tell you, Sir, that this is the exact opposite of the famous episode in which the sagacious monarch shamed his flatterers' entourage.

These courtiers have, of course, had their revenge, since his name is now used proverbially with the opposite meaning. But it is going too far when the headline to your Religious Affairs Correspondent's article today (December 12) employs the words "King Canute's faith" in the wrong, and derivative sense. Your correspondent should be asked to go back to his history books. Yours faithfully,
JAMES CLARK,
Trevin Conlestone Publishing Ltd,
Advance House,
101-109 Ladbroke Grove, W11,
December 12.

The courteous gull

From Mr James Dawson

Sir, For some years I have noticed that a gull using a flag pole as a vantage point invariably makes way for another gull wishing to alight on the post and this irrespectively of the size of the two birds.

Can any reader explain the courtesy of the incumbent in making way for a newcomer, please? Yours sincerely,
JAMES DAWSON,
Advertising and Marketing Ltd,
85 Gloucester Place, W1,
December 7.

Radical change ahead in the cigarettes market, p19

Industrial output slowdown points to further rise in jobless total this winter

By Melvyn Westlake

Industrial activity in Britain shows signs of picking up, in spite of the stimulus given to the economy by the Chancellor in the summer and of the revival of financial confidence. The implications of this continuing sluggish level of output from factories and workshops, confirmed by government figures published yesterday, is that unemployment will probably fall during this winter.

Yesterday's figures suggest that industrial production fell by about 1.1 per cent in October. Government statisticians are reluctant to place too much reliance on a single month's figures, particularly when they are subject to as much revision as these output indices have been in the past.

Even so, it is clear that the industrial sector, which accounts for nearly half of the total output of the economy, remains very depressed.

Since the spring, when activity in this sector showed a discernible reduction, the level of production has been steadily falling. The picture is the same for manufacturing industry alone—excluding mining, construction and utilities.

Moreover, there is some reason to think that the figures recently overstated the level of industrial output in recent months—because of officially admitted weaknesses in the way that the statistics are collected and compiled.

It remains far from clear why industrial activity remains so depressed when the demand for goods has been rising domestically and the volume of exports has also been increasing.

Consumer expenditure has

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers for industrial production in October, seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1970=100):

	All industrial	Manufacturing total
1976		
Oct	102.8	104.9
Nov	103.4	105.1
Dec	103.5	104.6
1977		
Jan	103.7	105.6
Feb	103.5	105.7
March	103.6	105.9
April	102.5	103.7
May	103.7	105.3
June	100.2	100.3
July	102.8	104.3
Aug	102.7	103.5
Sept	102.7	103.7
Oct	101.4	102.4

Percentage change latest three months on previous at annual rate —0.1

shown some revival helped by last July's tax rebates, and exports rose 2.1 per cent by volume in the third quarter of the year.

The explanation seems to be that manufacturers have chosen to meet this demand by holding on to their stocks rather than increasing output. This follows an apparently involuntary rise in stocks in earlier months.

The hope of ministers must be that this process is nearly complete and industrial output will start to climb under the impetus of the fresh measures taken by the Chancellor on October 26.

Most economic forecasters expect consumer spending to rise relatively sharply next year.

The Treasury is expecting a 3 per cent rise in personal consumption between the second halves of 1977 and 1978. But this prediction assumes a growth in earnings of around 10 per cent. An average rise in earnings closer to 15 per cent, at a time when inflation is falling quite rapidly, would lead to a rather greater short-term increase in real purchasing power.

This likelihood has led independent economic forecasters to predict an even faster growth in personal consumption than the Treasury has done. But the outcome will also depend on how much people choose to save of their higher income. Even on the Treasury's assumptions manufacturing production is seen as rising by some 3.1 per cent between the second halves of 1977 and 1978.

However, many groups of workers delaying wage settlements until the general level for phase three becomes clearer, any recovery in output could come too late to prevent unemployment rising in coming months.

There is, in any case, usually a lag of several months before changes in the level of unemployment have an influence on the economy.

Strangely, in spite of the generally depressed level of the economy, the level of unemployment has shown an inexplicable decline in October and November, after allowing for seasonal influences.

It is possible that employers are holding on to their stocks in anticipation of an increase in demand next year. But if the traditional relationship between employment and output holds, any such rise in jobs would seem certain.

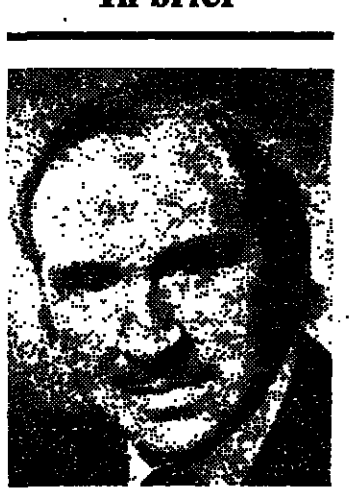
Crane Fruehauf directors ousted

There has been a major shake-up at Crane Fruehauf, the Norfolk trailer manufacturer, after the company's takeover by Fruehauf Corporation of the United States. Mr Angus Murray has been removed as chairman of the company, along with Mr H. Allwood, the deputy chairman. Mr Derek Marsh, managing director, Mr J. K. Thompson, project director, and Mr L. H. Allwood, have also been dismissed from their executive positions.

Four nominees of Fruehauf Corporation were appointed to the board, giving it an American majority. After the changes, Mr L. H. Allwood resigned from the board.

Fruehauf gained control of Crane after a bitterly fought battle against the Crane board, which had been in power since 1964. The takeover was completed in October last year. A row broke out between Crane's directors and the Fruehauf board over an announcement that the board would not stand by its profits forecast of £3m for the current year if Fruehauf's bid was successful.

In brief



Mr Angus Murray: removed as chairman.

LRC's accounts for the current year. Meanwhile, LRC has announced a one-for-one rights issue at the par value of 10p, to raise £4.3m. Because of the discount to the market price, the issue is not being underwritten.

Financial Editor, page 19

closing price last night of 15p. Meanwhile the National Coal Board pension fund offer for the £100m British Investment Trust has won acceptance from at least 75.8 per cent of the equity.

Glenlivet Distillers dealings suspended

Dealings in the shares of Glenlivet Distillers were suspended yesterday at 4.50p pending boardroom consideration today of an increased offer from Seagram, the Canadian group.

The original offer, worth £34m, or 44p a share, was rejected last month but Glenlivet later appeared to retreat slightly by saying it was prepared to continue negotiations provided Seagram gave written assurances regarding staff employment and the future status of the company. It is understood that a partial bid, enabling Glenlivet to maintain its quoted status, had been discussed by the two sides.

Seagram holds 27 per cent of Glenlivet while Suntory, the leading Japanese distillery group, controls a further 11 per cent.

Uranium rise agreed

Peko Wolland and E2 Industries, partners in Ranger Uranium, Australia, have won a price increase for 255 tonnes of uranium from stockpile to two Japanese power companies next year. Meanwhile Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development of Japan gave written assurances to explore uranium resources in Western Australia jointly with Australian Consolidated Minerals and Magnet Metals.

More N Sea pacts

Eight companies with interests in block 16/17a of the North Sea, which includes the Brae field, have signed definitive agreements giving the Government majority participation in any commercial developments. They are the first agreements with companies in a block where a decision to develop a field has yet to be taken.

Cadbury settlement costs LRC £460,000

LRC International, the rubber gloves, contraceptives and toiletries group, has settled a four year dispute with Cadbury Schweppes over the sale of Courtenay Wines (International) at a cost of more than £460,000. Cadbury Schweppes had been seeking in excess of £1.1m.

The dispute stemmed from the settlement given by LRC when it sold Courtenay to Cadbury. Problems arose when the company's results fell short of expectation and Cadbury began proceedings against LRC.

LRC announced £160,000 which was otherwise due to LRC. An extraordinary debit of £375,000 will be included in

How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
Adwest 6p to 254p	BP 13p to 852p
Barron Dean 3p to 57p	Blacken Mines 41p to 852p
Crosby House 10p to 115p	Copper-Neil 4p to 71p
Dyn. G. 16p to 144p	Edwards 6p to 34p
	E Rand Prod 8p to 34p
	Portland 8p to 283p
	Hammy 12p to 32p
	Wang Bronze 4p to 60p
	Mining Supplies 4p to 64p
	Metal Box 12p to 250p

Fogarty, E.	Gold Exploration
12p to 310p	12p to 310p
12p to 310p	12p to 310p
12p to 310p	12p to 310p
12p to 310p	12p to 310p
12p to 310p	12p to 310p
12p to 310p	12p to 310p
12p to 310p	12p to 310p
12p to 310p	12p to 310p
12p to 310p	12p to 310p

THE POUND	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells
Australia \$	1.67	1.62
Austria Sch	29.75	27.75
Belgium Fr	64.75	61.75
Canada \$	2.08	2.01
Denmark Kr	11.26	10.86
Finland Mk	7.80	7.55
France Fr	9.07	8.75
Germany Dm	3.36	3.12
Greece Dr	75.50	71.50
Hongkong \$	8.80	8.35
Italy L	1635.00	1580.00
Japan Yu	462.00	458.00
Netherlands Gld	4.46	4.24
Norway Kr	9.91	9.55
Portugal Esc	79.00	75.00
S Africa R	1.85	1.73
Spain Ps	158.00	152.00
Sweden Kr	9.01	8.66
Switzerland Fr	4.04	3.82
US \$	1.88	1.83
Yugoslavia Dnr	37.50	35.00

Gold lost \$0.50 an ounce to \$157.625.

SDR's was 1.19901 on Tuesday, while SDR-E was 0.52558.

Commodities: Reuters' index was at 1439.9 (previous 1441.9).

Reports, pages 20 and 22

Smilies fell back: 1000 securities were in the red.

Debt premium: 93.5 per cent effective rate 33.45 per cent.

Starting gained 90 ps to \$1.8405.

The effective exchange rate index was at 63.4.

On other pages

Business appointments 21

Appointments vacant 13, 24

Wall Street 22

Bank Base Rates Table 22

Annual Statements: 19

Seco Holdings 18

Majestic Investments 18

Mitchell Cotts 18

S. Simpson 21

Preliminary Announcements: 20

K. Shoes 19

Serck 19

Prospectus: 18

Stag Furniture 18

Interim Statements: 22

Crown House 21

Imperial Continental Gas 17

Milbury Limited 21

Salt Piron 21

South Crofty 21

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

£250m Channel power link planned

By Ross Davies

Proposals for a 2,500-megawatt submarine cable link between Britain and France have been agreed by the Central Electricity Generating Board and its counterpart, Electricité de France. The total cost at present price levels is put at £250m and will be shared equally between the two authorities.

The cable, which could be commissioned within the next five years, will supersede a 160Mw link between Dungeness and Equihen, near Boulogne, laid in 1961 and at present out of service.

Announcing the agreement in London yesterday, Mr Glyn England, CEGB chairman, said he and Marcel Bostoux, his opposite number, had yet to secure the approval of their respective Governments.

It is known, however, that the link was agreed in principle at talks that ended yesterday between Mr Callaghan and Mr Giscard d'Estaing, the French President. Mr England appeared confident the scheme would proceed, and said that some

development contracts for the British shore installation had already been placed.

The link, which he describes as an "exciting proposition", would enable the two countries to trade electricity, thus reducing the costs of both state authorities. In France, for example, people start and finish work earlier and Electricité de France, therefore, has electricity to spare when British demand is peaking.

Mr England also presents the proposals as a way of saving up to 500,000 tonnes of oil a year, and of "exporting" as electricity up to a million tonnes of British coal. This, however, would depend upon the National Coal Board's ability to produce more coal than the CEGB needs for British consumption and at a price likely to suit French buyers.

A more contentious point is the extent to which the two state authorities will trade power with each other. French power workers have been in dispute over pay

for the past two weeks, and consumers are suffering power cuts.

Mr England said yesterday that the present link would have made a "useful contribution" during the power cuts caused in this country by the recent unofficial action of CEGB employees.

That it did not do so is because the link has been broken for much of this year. The present cable lies on the seabed and is constantly falling foul of anchors and trawls, particularly on the French side. The new link, which would follow much the same route as the old one, would be buried about 15 metres deep in the sand.

If there is to be any controversy over the placing of the contracts—which might be next year it is likely to be not between London and Paris but between them and Brussels. An arrangement to split the work between contractors in Britain and France might attract the notice of officials in Brussels concerned with competition policy.

Business Diary, page 19

New Letter of Intent to IMF likely

By Caroline Atkinson

A letter from the Chancellor to the International Monetary Fund setting out the detailed results of their recent talks will probably be published this week.

It may be in the form of a Letter of Intent with an outline of the policy commitments which the Government is making to the fund in return for the continuation until the end of 1978 of the standby credit arranged last December.

It is expected that figures for the two key variables which the IMF monitor will be given, although they will almost certainly not have the hard status of targets. Reaching agreement on the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement for 1978-79 seems to have agreed its difficulty.

There should be room for substantial tax cuts in the Spring Budget even within the £8,600m central estimate of the PSBR which was incorporated in the original Letter of Intent.

The latest private Treasury forecast of next year's PSBR is believed to be only £6,800m.

However, it has been less easy to agree a figure for the Domestic Credit Expansion (the domestic supply of money excluding the Bank of England's own money supply of flows in or out of the country). The Government is extremely unwilling to be tied down at this stage on its money policy for next year.

Heavy dollar fall after Basle talks failure

From Peter Norman Frankfurt, Dec 13

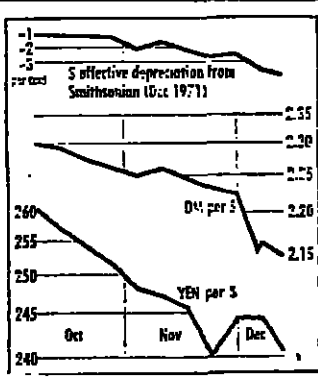
The dollar today slumped to its lowest level against the Deutschmark and the Swiss franc as news spread through the foreign exchange markets that the meeting of western central bankers in Basle had failed to agree on a new joint initiative to support the United States currency.

In London currency dealers said the dollar was dropping like a stone after the failure in Basle. The Bank of England appeared to be adding to the dollar's troubles by selling some of its reserves to hold up the pound.

Sterling closed 90 points up on the day against the dollar at \$1.8405 with an unchanged effective rate index of 63.4. The dollar dropped to a new record low of 2.0885 Swiss francs during the day, although it subsequently closed a little higher at DM2.1505, and Swf2.1040.

Although it had been rumoured yesterday that Swiss banks and others were poised to dump dollars on the market if the central bankers meeting failed to produce any tangible result, no communique was issued after the bankers ended their discussions.

While one or two European central bankers said afterwards that the Basle talks had been useful, it was clear today that the United States had failed



Effective depreciation from 1971 to 1977. Dollar, DM per \$, Yen per \$.

refused to enlarge the scope of its foreign exchange market intervention beyond smoothing out erratic currency movements.

Mr Henry Wallich, who represented the Federal Reserve system at Basle, apparently told other central bankers that the United States monetary authorities sympathized with the problems caused by the fall in the dollar for the European countries and Japan. But he made clear that intervention was a political decision and that the Carter Administration was not prepared to embark on such a step.

It is possible that the relative calm of foreign exchange markets yesterday encouraged central bankers into believing that the dollar had already staged a modest, but successful, technical recovery from the lows of early last week and would withstand the absence of an official statement from Basle.

That the bankers could not even agree on an advisory declaration designed to give the American currency moral support may well indicate the gulf that exists between the American position and that of the hard currency nations of West Germany, Switzerland and Japan. Certainly this was how the foreign exchange markets interpreted events. Today's fall in the dollar produced intervention to support it by the central banks in Frankfurt and

Textile nations agree on pact extension

Geneva, Dec 13.—The world's main textile trading nations today reached an understanding to extend the multi-fibre agreement (MFA) for another four years from the start of next year.

Sources attending the negotiations said that some modifications to the pact, which expires at the end of the year, have been agreed and that these modified provisions will be presented to the full 50-nation members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade tomorrow morning.

The 50 nations that adhere to the MFA account for between 80 per cent and 85 per cent of the world trade in textiles. This amounts to about \$50,000m (about £2,775m).

Stonehouse advisers criticized in report

Continued from page 1

by breaches of the Companies Act through the leading of money by BBT to directors, to pay shares to Mr Stonehouse, the inspectors say, "was ruined on the treadmill of pride".

Once the company was set up, however, it was important for it to have a clear line of health from its auditors to obtain a "section 123" licence from the Department of Trade to act as a bank.

Such a licence was obtained on December 10, 1973, after the audit for which Sir Charles and Mr Levine were criticized. On the basis of the same accounts, the company also had a rights issue for £245,000, which again involved breaches of the Companies Act.

"The circumstances of this case do not entitle the solicitors to hide behind the skirts of the auditors," the inspectors say. "Neither Sir Charles nor Mr Levine made sufficient inquiry into their respective spheres."

As a result the members of BBT were given all the information they might reasonably have expected.

The directors too come in for strong criticism. "Although we find that the auditors did not ask for adequate information from the directors as to their shareholding, we doubt that such information, had it been specifically requested, would have been truthfully given."

Elsewhere the directors are accused of "gross breaches of fiduciary duty" in connection with guarantees given for loans but not registered.

The inspectors criticize Mr John McGrath, former chief accountant of the London Co-operative Society, and Mr Kazi Badrudin Ahmed, whose idea BBT was.

Neither of them in their directorial capacities gave BBT the benefit of their independent judgment and thought. Both lacked independence of mind and, without scruple, did Mr Stonehouse's bidding.

Mr Keith Witte, the general manager of BBT, who had extensive banking experience, and officers in the company, are also criticized.

The irregularities of the business were not confined to its launch. "The unscrupulous start to the business of BBT, paired with the subsequent irregularities which were to follow."

"It involved itself in 'window-dressing' to improve its

IMPERIAL CONTINENTAL GAS ASSOCIATION

Interim Statement

Consolidated Results (unaudited)	Half Year to 30.9.77	Half Year to 30.9.76	Full Year to 31.3.77	Full Year to 31.3.76
Turnover	30,376	27,080	57,000	57,000
Trading Profit	5,311	4,805	10,744	10,744
Depreciation	4,825	3,808	9,744	9,744
Income from Investments	1,288	1,417	2,711	2,711
Interest (net)	145	106	292	292
Group Results before Taxation	1,719	1,276	22,189	22,189
Taxation	656	583	12,376	12,376
Group Results after Taxation	528	293	9,813	9,813
Minority Interests	58	45	115	115
Results attributable to ICGA	462	248	9,698	9,698

The consolidated results are those of the Association and its subsidiaries excluding its Belgian subsidiaries.

Belgian subsidiary companies are not consolidated in accordance with the dispensations granted by the Department of Trade.

Dividends

The Directors have declared an interim dividend for the year ending 31st March, 1978 of 4p per stock unit on the £40,413,118 Ordinary Capital Stock, costing £1,616,535. In addition, the Directors have declared a supplementary dividend in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1977 of 0.08122p per stock unit, costing £32,824, to compensate shareholders for the retrospective reduction in the basic rate of income tax.

The two dividends totalling 4.08122p per stock unit will be paid on the 21st March, 1978 to stockholders on the register at the close of business on the 10th February, 1978. The interim dividend paid on the 28th March, 1977 of 3.5p per stock unit on £39,608,726 Ordinary Capital Stock, costing £1,584,346. The supplementary dividend has been increased by the issue of £804,392 Ordinary Capital Stock mainly to holders of the Convertible Unsecured Loan Stocks who exercised their conversion rights in September, 1977.

Notes

Once again the Directors cannot emphasize too strongly that the results shown for the half year provide no guidance concerning the probable results for the year.

Apart from income from General Investments, which is relatively insignificant, the Association's investment income is derived from dividends from Belgian companies, all of which are booked in the second half of the financial year. Present indications are that the Group share of earnings of these companies will, in terms of Belgian francs, be slightly greater than for 1976/77. Stockholders will recall that the dividends in respect of 1976 were converted at an average rate of exchange of B.Fr.62.9 to the £, compared with the current rate of exchange of B.Fr.63.25 to the £.

The Calor Group's turnover was 28.4% up on the first six months of last year. Trading profit increased by 22.0% or £897,000. It included £400,000 profit on the sale of assets on withdrawing from transport operations in Germany. The continuing pressure on margins has been temporarily increased by the cost of converting bottle cylinders to the new convenient "Swirl-On" system in Great Britain. Depreciation was 31.3% up on the comparable period last year, due to a continuing high level of capital expenditure. However, lower interest rates led to a reduction of 8.0% in financing costs.

Tonnage in all Calor gas businesses was up on last year, reflecting the generally cooler weather in the spring and summer. Transport and Engineering Divisions in Great Britain also showed satisfactory improvements. Results of Pro-Sil in the U.S.A. were again disappointing, due to poor harvesting conditions, but plans for the commercial development of an animal feed based upon whey continue to progress.

Although the half-year results are encouraging, the uncertainties over pay negotiations in the fuel and power industries and winter temperatures make it difficult at this stage to forecast the profit of the Calor Group for the full year.

The value of gas and liquids sold from the Havertfield by Century Power and Light Limited rose by 23% with trading profits at £576,000, before depreciation and financial charges, increasing by 22%.

Seamless Services Limited with a turnover of £266,000 (compared with £333,000) produced a trading loss of £32,000 (profit £70,000).

The charge for taxation has been calculated at the provisional rate of 52% but certain losses of overseas subsidiaries in the first half year, largely seasonal, do not give rise to a corresponding tax offset. As previously reported, tax provisions made in the accounts in previous years amounting to approximately £1,400,000 have been released and will be treated in the accounts of this year as a prior years' adjustment. No account has been taken of this in the Consolidated Results for the half year to 30th September, 1977 now submitted.

Ansafone

Let Ansafone answer your phone

From £1.25 per week

13 Upper Brook St. London W1V 2JL

01-629 9232

Kuwaitis insist on language of the law

His Excellency Abdullah

Youssef al-Ghanim, Kuwaiti Minister for Electricity and Water, has just left a pair of Germany's largest companies frothing with rage and a group of international lawyers in London looking glumly eyed.

Eight years ago the two German companies (names and addresses supplied but withheld to save them further embarrassment) bid for and won a £13m contract for part of Kuwait's futuristic, computer-controlled water distribution project.

Their part of the scheme should have been completed by spring, 1973, but almost from the start things went wrong—sites were not handed over on time, electrical power was not provided on schedule—and the contract over-run. The Germans slapped in a claim for delays and disruptions amounting to more than £20m.

The contract—which was in English, since the Germans did not speak very good Arabic and the Kuwaitis were not too good at German—stipulated that in the event of a dispute the parties should go to arbitration under the laws of Kuwait.

Kuwaiti law stipulates that there shall be one arbitrator nominated by each party and that the arbitrators should agree on an independent chairman. If they fail to agree—as they did—the claimants can apply to the Kuwaiti courts to appoint a chairman. Eventually Professor Ahmed Kamal Aboul Majid, professor of law at Kuwait University, was so appointed.

By June this year Professor Majid was ready to start. Then the Minister for Electricity and Water pulled his master's strokes.

He invoked a provision of Kuwait law which obliges the arbitration tribunal to produce its award within three months. Second he insisted, as he is entitled to do, that Arabic be used as the language of arbitration, which would mean translating more than 30,000 documents into Arabic—six million words it is estimated.

Anyone planning a business with Kuwait is advised to bone up on his contract law.

Malcolm Brown

Leading article, page 15

Leyland job losses if output lags

By Clifford Webb

Mr Derek Whitaker, Leyland Cars' managing director, yesterday gave a warning that he would have to reduce the labour force early next year unless productivity improved considerably.

In an article in *Leyland Cars Mirror*, the works newspaper, he said: "There is no way that our current market share, which was 21.7 per cent last month, can be accepted."

"The first six months of 1978 will be absolutely crucial. If we do nothing during that short space of time to improve production and increase productivity, then the company will reduce in size and jobs will be lost."

"That is no threat. In fact we are almost past the point of no return already. However, I sense a changing attitude among employees. The majority, I believe, now realize the gravity of our situation."

Leyland's problems are not all internal. More than 51,000 vehicles and three million man-hours have been lost in the past four months because of strikes in suppliers' plants. Hardly a day has passed when Leyland has not been faced by up to 20 different supplier disputes.

The result is that it is being forced to produce large numbers of incomplete cars because of component shortages.

This would have been worse but for alternative supplies. Design centre: Leyland's urgently needed new range of cars will be speeded by the most advanced computer-controlled design centre in Europe, which has just been installed at a cost of £250,000.

It will produce detailed design drawings six times faster and increase accuracy. The first news of the new installation at Leyland's Cowley plant was given yesterday by Dr B.H. Emmerson, the execu-

tive engineer in charge of engineering computer services. He said: "We are sick and tired of all the anti-Leyland stories. It is time we told the world that in some areas we are second to none."

"Leyland was the first company outside the United States to have computer-aided design. That was in the middle 1960s."

"With this new centre we are really beginning to reap the dividends of all our early computer design work. In virtually any engineering design process using the right computer technique is rather like having seven league boots."

The new centre, which produces drawings in minutes instead of hours, came too late to help ADO 88, Leyland's £250m new Mini due for launching in late 1979. But it is already working on ADO 10, 11 and 12, the new medium saloon range which will follow in 1980.



Mr Derek Whitaker: next six months absolutely crucial.

Plea to car unions: 'stop the industry bleeding to death'

By Peter Waymark

Motoring Correspondent

An urgent appeal to union leaders to help stop the motor industry bleeding to death through industrial disputes was made last night by Mr David Plastow, president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Mr Plastow, who was speaking at the society's annual banquet in London, stressed that the industry was in a "bleeding" state. But he criticized the industry's strike record and called for stronger union leadership to deal with unofficial disputes.

He told his audience: "Time is running out. If we do not take action now, then some day we will be attending not a memorial service, but a memorial service."

The problem was not simply the number of strikes and disputes but the style of behaviour which Britain had adopted on the industrial scene.

Optimism on US-Japan trade talks

Mrs Juanita Kreps, Commerce Secretary, said Mr Nobutaka Ushiba, the Japanese Minister of Overseas Economic Affairs, in a meeting with her said that he was "optimistic" that the United States and Japan would move closer together in their trade talks here.

Yesterday, the United States politely rejected the Japanese proposals for dealing with the trade imbalance between the two countries. Kreps, reiterating that the Japanese proposal falls short of American desires, noted that "this is only the first stage in our discussions and so we're optimistic that we will move closer together and indeed the minister made such a remark in the course of our discussion."

Specifically, Kreps told Japanese businessmen after the meeting that the United States would like to achieve tariff reductions by Japan faster than the eight years the Japanese proposed and that America is interested particularly in eliminating quotas by the Japanese.

Three groups on pay black list are named

By Our Industrial Editor

The Treasury has confirmed that names of three more companies liable to sanctions for alleged breaches of pay policy, but it is still declining to give other names because this "would definitely not be in the best public interest."

The three companies are J. W. Spencer Engineering, of Surrey; Reynolds Tanker Services, of Gloucestershire; and S. Redfern, of Lancashire. They are among 11 on the blacklist for possible sanctions, such as loss of government contracts and withdrawal of discretionary export credits.

It is stated by the Treasury that these three were in breach of phase two pay guidelines and one was also in breach of phase one guidelines. Of the 11, which include the only previously named concern, James Mackie, of Northern Ireland, five are said to have breached both phases one and two of current pay policy, five in breach of phase two, and one in breach of phase three.

While it is difficult to judge the effectiveness of the Government's willingness to invoke sanctions, there is no doubt that managements are becoming conscious of the threat of them. Recently, for example, workers at the British Petroleum refinery at Grangemouth were told that a pay claim had to lie up with Government criteria owing "to their involvement of capital grants up to £13.5m" on present project work.

Not long ago management of the government-aided Triang Pedigree concern rejected a claim as well as above Whitehall criteria and put forward a counter offer, which was rejected. Compromise proposals have been apparently put forward, but the Triang management is in a difficult position, given its considerable involvement with the Department of Industry.

Whitehall tightens its advertising

By Patricia Tisdall

Procedures for the purchase of production material for press advertisements are being tightened by the Central Office of Information in an attempt to reduce costs. The office, which handles most of the Government's advertising and is probably Britain's biggest advertiser, will concentrate practically all its work through the new "approved" companies in the 60 or more formerly used.

Letters listing the production houses concerned are going out to the 18 London-based advertising agencies used by the office.

A year ago allegations that agencies, some of which work for the office, had received bribes from blackmarket dealers investigated by Scotland Yard. While no charges were laid, the investigation drew attention to the possibility that suppliers' discounts might not always be passed on by agencies.

The office, through a working party which included representatives of the Stationery Office and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, had been studying production work for press advertising since 1974.

It says the new method of purchasing has been set up as a result of this working party's recommendations and has no connexion with the police investigation.

But the new scheme, to be introduced in January, enables a volume discount to be negotiated direct by the office with the production companies instead of through sub-contractors. The office expects to spend about £17m on advertising during 1977-78.

Slight upturn forecast for construction industry

By John Huxley

Construction is slowly emerging from its prolonged recession, according to forecasts for the industry published today.

After a series of pessimistic reports, the joint forecasting committee for the building and civil engineering economies and the development committee (Little Neddies) sounds a note of cautious optimism, echoing brighter prospects for the economy as a whole.

The committee believes that the worst of the recession occurred this year, for which new construction output was forecast to decline by 10 per cent compared with 1976. Next year an upturn of 2 per cent is predicted and a further improvement of 3 per cent is expected for 1979.

Although the industry as a whole appears to be turning the corner, improvement is expected to be patchy with some sectors remaining depressed. The committee welcomes the Government's £400m for the industry next year and a further £181m in 1979. But it says that the public sector still offers the worst prospects, even if the whole of the amounts allocated is spent, which appears doubtful.

Average yearly output for the public sector, excluding housing, is likely to be 28 per cent lower than the average for the years 1970 to 1976. In all three years, declines in the level of public housebuilding are also moderate increases in output are expected in 1978 and 1979, after a fall this year.

Prospects for the private industrial sector are brighter. After a modest increase this year, output is expected to rise more strongly in 1978, with a further but moderate increase in 1979. Output for the private commercial sector is expected this year to increase by 1 per cent but as in the outlook for 1978 and 1979 is good.

In repairs and maintenance, too, output is expected to increase both this year and next. Already, this sector accounts for more than a third of all construction output.

The forecasts reflect the industry's slowly growing confidence, although they will confirm the expectations of the civil engineers who will not share in the general, if small, revival. Recent surveys suggest that even more money made available for civil engineering and it seems that about £100m of the £181m earmarked for 1979 will go to housing—projects are not ready to go ahead.

Aid plea to Mr Shore: The National House-Building Council has urged Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, to ensure that part of the £400m package for the construction industry goes into the private housing sector.

Mr Andrew Tait, director-general of the council, says in a letter to Mr Shore that the council could be done by the provision of severe and other infrastructure, such as roads. This, he says, would not only help potential home-buyers in 1978 and 1979 but also create jobs.

Financial Editor, page 19

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A national plan for industry by compromise?

From Dr A. J. Berry

Sir, The central paradox of national economic planning is that a theory of planning would require goals to be established whereas the reality of politics is that goals are the stuff of debate and conflict. To ask, as Mr Warren (December 7) does, political parties of the left and right to agree on national goals for economic activity is to ask them to deny their political identity.

Since Mr Selwyn Lloyd founded the NEDC in 1961 national planning has been a central issue in political management. The foundation of the NEDC kept the issue between Government, industry and the unions. The Labour Government of 1964 saw the establishment of the DEA with one explicit purpose: to take the problem of national economic planning inside government. The subsequent fiasco of the national plan was as much caused by a genuine difficulty in the task of planning as by political need to rush it all through by the 1966 election. The subsequent unhappy history of the plan and indeed both its sponsor and the DEA were a measure of the disenchantment which followed. Even the publication of *The Task Ahead* in 1968 did little to relieve the gloom.

The advent of the Selwyn Lloyd and the Tory government of 1970-74 ensured that task of national planning was limited in its scope. The two elections of 1974 brought a Labour government which, through its sectoral planning exercise (the so-called industrial strategy) demonstrated that some real planning had taken place. The idea of planning agreements, now seemingly in a very low gear indeed, were designed to link together the issue of corporate level decision making and national level decision making.

It has been argued that even if national planning were desirable it is not possible because nobody knows enough about the economy to construct a plan, or nobody knows how to plan to articulate its implementation.

But the most serious problem is that much of the language of planning is couched in terms of goals or objectives and coordination of programmes to achieve them. However, the key issue for our country and its industries is planning for turbulence, that is the problem of adaptation. This latter thought could well be the basis for a logical justifying of a market economy in that decision making is distributed widely in an open economy.

Thus it becomes observable that the left-wing theory of planning is of the former kind, while the right-wing theory of planning is of the latter kind. What is clear is that there is no consensus and given the political values of the two major parties there is little possibility of a consensus. There might, however, be an agreement to manage half the economy on one theory and the other half on another theory. But that would be compromise, not consensus.

Yours sincerely,
A. J. BERRY,
Lecturer,
Manchester Business School,
21, Levens Road,
Disley,
Cheshire SK12 2JF,
December 7.

economy will "dovetail" to use Mr Warren's favourite phrase, is an appealing idea. Obviously if planners are to be clear, however, rather than human beings, they will. But the evidence is, if anything, that industries dovetail less well in planned economies than in market economies. In planned economies there is a greater tendency than in market economies for industries to produce goods that neither other industries nor the consumer wants; industries fail to deliver what other industries want (particularly spare parts); and investment projects to be abandoned half way to completion.

5 Are the planned economies planned? I suspect that Goplen in Russia is partially a facade—in contrast to George Brown's economic plan or the current Government's Industrial Strategy and planning agreements which are non-existent facade. When say a brass bolt factory is expanded in Russia, this is quite likely to be because the factory manager has found himself swamped with unplanned orders for brass bolts; or are we to believe that the Goplen bureaucrats calculate the number of brass bolts required by the entire Russian economy years in advance?

Yours faithfully,
R. S. MUSGRAVE,
24 Garden Avenue,
Drumwells Moor,
Durham DH1 5EQ,
December 7.

Doing business with the Chinese

From Dr M. T. C. Fang

Sir, In your article "Learning how to do business with the Chinese" (December 5), I was most surprised at the advice given: that the full technical description and technology of the goods should be sent in English.

Since, in my estimation, there are still very few people in China with the ability to understand technical and scientific English (and more especially so in the case of advanced technology for which no dictionaries are available), the full significance of the technology may not be immediately clear to the corporation concerned.

This could, in part, explain why the process, judging by past experience, could equally take several years.

It could therefore be a considerable advantage in British exporters if technical specifications were translated into correct Chinese (unlike a translation for one of the nationalized corporations which was riddled with such elementary errors as numbers and units being incorrectly translated).

I would therefore recommend that British firms seeking success in exporting to China should place greater importance in providing, if possible, good, accurate translations of their literature to the Chinese.

Yours faithfully,
M. T. C. FANG,
3 Hornby Lane,
Caversham, Oxford OX4 1JH,
December 6.

Transport management

From the Director-General, The Chartered Institute of Transport

Sir, The National Economic Development Council report, *Trading with Europe: Through Transport and the Total Export Concept*, contains as the comments of your Transport Correspondent on November 29

of the report, a number of suggestions and recommendations which all industrial and commercial users of transport would be ill-advised to ignore.

The significance and importance of transport to the life of the community and to the economic well-being of a nation must surely need little emphasis today—or so one would think. The figure of £1,000m per annum in unnecessary costs will shock many but not, I suggest, shock those who have long and consistently recognized the problems and have advocated some of the "remedies" put forward in the report.

In far too many instances the transport function has been regarded as an unfortunate

necessity in the manufacturing and selling process, contributing little and costing much. May therefore, add strong support to the recommendations in the report which bear particularly, as a prime requirement, on the need for education and training leading to a thoroughly professional understanding approach and improved management performance where transport activity is concerned. A further requirement, of equal importance and demanding equally strong support, is that transport management (I stress "management") must be upgraded and represented—largely in its own right—in the higher levels of industry. Until this is accepted and acted upon, damaging costs, identified in the report, will continue.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
D. N. LOCKE,
Director-General,
The Chartered Institute of Transport,
80 Portland Place,
London W1N 4DP.

EEC directive to agents

From Sir Derek Walker-Smith

Mr Sir, *Hertfordshire East* (November 29). In his letter in your issue of December 2, Mr Carter, writing as secretary of the Manufacturers' Agents Association, says:

"The legal affairs committee of the European Parliament has approved the directive (relating to the activities of commercial agents) subject to a number of amendments which it recommends should be discussed between the commission and the member states."

It is in fact under a misapprehension as to the status of the matter in that committee. The committee had received a draft report and embarked on

discussion of it, approving certain paragraphs, while the report of the Law Commission, which contains strong criticism of some of the provisions of the draft directive, was published.

On the Law Commission's report being brought to the attention of the committee, it was agreed to defer further discussion of the directive to enable consideration to be given to the points made in the Law Commission's report. It is therefore premature to attribute any final position to the committee on this matter at this time.

Your Obedient Servant,
DEREK WALKER-SMITH,
House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA.

EEC rejects Benn view of coal stocks

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, Dec 14

Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, described himself as "bitterly disappointed" here today by the failure of EEC energy ministers to approve proposals for the financing of coal stockpiles and encouraging the use of coal instead of oil in power stations.

More than 30 per cent of all investment in the coal industry in the EEC was British. Mr Benn said and Britain accounted for half of Community production.

The European Commission had proposed spending about £65m over the next years to encourage the use of coal in power stations. At present only 23 per cent of EEC power stations are coal-fired, and a fifth 82 new units are expected to come on stream between now and 1985 only 15 will use coal, whereas 60 will burn oil or gas.

The Commission had also proposed that the stocking of coal to 20 million tonnes of EEC produced coal should be partly financed out of the budget of the European Coal and Steel Community. The aim would be to reduce the risk of pit closures during periods of cyclical downturn in demand.

The proposals are part of a wider-ranging programme to reduce the EEC's dependence on imported energy.

Only Britain and Germany, however, have a real interest in the coal proposals. Most other member states rely on imported coal, which is usually cheaper than British or German, and are not prepared to agree to any more to encourage coal use in power stations unless it applies to imported coal.

Attempts by Dr Guido Brunner, the EEC Commissioner for Energy, to get member states to agree to this measure and consumption targets for different kinds of energy for the year 1985 also ran into difficulties. Mr Benn made clear British dislike of a policy based on precise targets, which he said introduced an unnecessary element of rigidity. Such targets were in any case notoriously unreliable. Forecasts of installed nuclear capacity in the EEC by 1985, for example, had fallen by half in the last four years.

Mitchell Cotts Group Limited

1976/7 RESULTS

	1977	1976
Profit before Interest and Taxation	£15,366,000	£12,536,000
Profit before Taxation	£11,669,000	£9,544,000
Funds Employed	£80,177,000	£73,051,000

Dividends per Ordinary Share

Interim—	0.656 p	0.656 p
Proposed Final—	2.744 p	2.670 p
Total for the year—	3.400 p	3.326 p
Dividend Cover	2.31 times	2.15 times
Earnings per Ordinary Share	8.03 p	7.22 p

Profit Contribution

By Principal Activities	%	%	By Territories	%	%
Engineering	61	64	United Kingdom	16	14
Freight, Transport and Storage	23	25	Southern Africa	68	81
Commodity Trading	5	3	East and Central Africa	20	16
Vehicle Distribution	6	6	Europe, N. & S. America & Australasia	(4)	(11)
Agriculture	5	2			
	100	100		100	100



Mitchell Cotts Group Limited,
Cotts House, Camomile Street, London, EC3A 7BJ.
Telephone: 01-2683 1234

For a copy of the annual report and accounts please contact the Secretary

دکتران، مانی، لایسنس

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Improving earnings quality at ICL

ICL is looking unstoppable at the moment. On the back of virtually no price increase its profits were up 31 per cent to £30.3m in the year to end September and sales were up 45 per cent to £419m. While part of the growth has come from the acquisition of Singer Business Machines, the underlying improvement is about 20 per cent, some 5 per cent better than the computer industry as a whole. The Singer interests, meanwhile, were ahead by about a third in turnover terms.

Since the profits dip of 1972 ICL has thus accumulated an enviable profit record. The order book is apparently even longer than it was a year ago, and the only question is why the shares are still showing some scepticism, selling as they do on a price earnings ratio of only 4 at 214p and yielding 54 per cent on a dividend which is more than five times covered.

It is true that there is always something of a gamble on the next model range being right and on the rental side of the business not suddenly running into problems of obsolescence. But for ICL the former of these problems is still a long way away and the group's continued ability to sell its older 1960 range suggests that the latter is no particular worry either—especially since ICL reckons to recover the cost of its rental equipment over about 22 months. Clearly as the proportion of rental and maintenance service business builds up—accounted for 48 per cent of turnover last year—the stream of deferred income and thus the quality of earnings builds up as well.

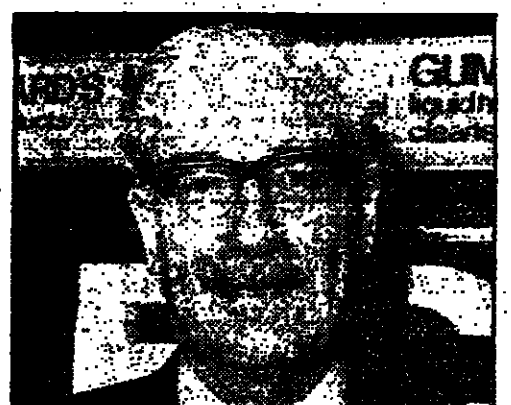
ICL's only real problem at the moment then, given that there is no sign of a let up in orders, is capacity to produce. Perhaps £20m of turnover was lost through industrial disruption last year and the marginal profit at this level is high. But ICL is in a comfortable position to finance both a bigger rental sales and a higher level of capital investment to expand capacity. Borrowings were down last year and some £9.4m of deferred tax has been taken into reserves so the gearing ratios will show a significant improvement in the balance sheet.

LRC International

An income-boosting rights issue

Increasing doubts about LRC International's future growth prospects were hardly allayed yesterday, firstly by the mere 9.7 per cent increase in first half pre-tax profits to £4.1m and declining trading margins and secondly by comparison with Smith & Nephew's strong performance.

LRC is still saddled with persistent loss making areas and has been caught the consumer spending downturn. While it is strong in contraptives, it is fairly weak in comparison with its competitors in other



Sir Edward Howard, chairman of LRC International.

markets and the volume growth in the United Kingdom soap market appears to have been acquired at some cost.

The one-for-one rights issue at par (10p) to raise £4.3m is not that reassuring either. Raising that sum of money is not going to transform the balance sheet, which showed a loss of £15.5m in late November. Although much stress is laid on the capital expenditure programme of £5.3m, the rights seems more destined to ease the burden of working costs. In addition the capital projects under way are not of the sort that will radically change earnings.

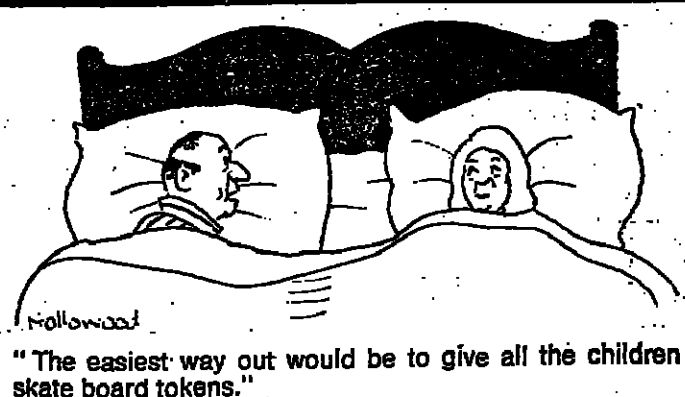
Business Diary: Meany once more • Norland's Alcoa

George Meany is fit and well. His voice is strong and his power undiminished. At 83 the president of the 13.7 million-member AFL-CIO, trade union organisation has just been voted another two-year term of office and an handsome pay rise.

The almost 1,000 delegates to the AFL-CIO's constitutional convention in Los Angeles decided unanimously to increase their president's annual pay by \$20,000 (£10,900) to \$100,000 (£54,300); but the delegates also remembered the heir apparent, the exceptionally young Mr Lane Kirkland, who has been George Meany's assistant for longer than he can recall. Kirkland's pay has been increased from \$60,000 (£32,600) to \$90,000 (£48,900) a year.

Kirkland spent 14 years as George Meany's executive assistant and has been the organisation's secretary-treasurer since 1969.

He was loudly cheered when he was re-elected unopposed once again to the AFL-CIO's number two post. But not surprisingly, the loudest cheers of all in the week-long meeting were from the members of plumbers union, local number two of New York—for George Meany.



"The easiest way out would be to give all the children skate board tokens."

Norland, whose appointment was announced in Business Diary in July, Norland is to remain an executive director of Hambro Bank and plans to devote about a third of his time to Alcoa.

Norland, who succeeds Dr Robert Berry, has wide experience in the shipping industry and is chairman of the finance study committee of the International Maritime Industries Forum.

His managing director is to be an American, 46-year-old Frank Townsend, an Alcoa man for 22 years, who is to take up his first foreign posting for the company. He is at present market manager of alumina and chemicals in Alcoa's headquarters in Pittsburgh and is to take over in the United Kingdom from Ward Stewart, who has become European regional manager.

Unlike its North American competitors, Kaiser and Alcan, Alcoa does not operate an aluminium smelter in the

United Kingdom, but it has a big rolling mill in Swansea and a big recycling plant in Buckinghamshire. The head of the Swansea operation is to be Paul Griswold, who has 30 years' service with Alcoa and comes to the United Kingdom from the Dutch subsidiary.

The new finance man is William Wynter, formerly controller at Alcoa plant in the United States, who replaces John Hickman, now appointed financial manager for Alcoa Europe.

Alcoa, normally a company which shuns publicity, was reluctant yesterday to herald the reshuffle as marking a significant change in company policy, although a spokesman said it wanted Alcoa GB to grow—and this means out-competing anyone.

Having introduced early retirement for his top executives, Edgar Bowring, chairman of the traders C. T. Bowring, is now

practising what he preaches. He is to bow out at the not so ripe old age of 62—three years before the group's mandatory retirement age—because, he says: "It is good for promotion."

In this case it is particularly good for promoting another Bowring, cousin Peter, who is to take over as deputy chairman since Edgar took the chair in 1973. As well as taking over the group chairmanship Peter Bowring will also become chairman of the group's banking arm, Bowring Bank.

For Bowring will step up to succeed Edgar Bowring as chairman of C. T. Bowring (Insurance) Holdings.

Edgar Bowring, who took over the chair on the sudden death of another cousin, Ian Skimington, will remain a non-executive director of Bowring's and says he is also "open to offers" elsewhere.

Advertising brings to mind the cobbler's children who went without shoes, in that it has no central system for publicising its history. Even in America, which tends to reverse its past, important records are being destroyed daily. In this country, much of the early development of commercial television has already been forgotten.

All this will be changed if a British advertising industry devotes organized David Dumbard, director of information services at J. Walter Thompson, and chaired by Jimmy Williams, the former director general of the Advertising Association, has a way. The high-powered group has

formed a History of Advertising Trust, which is being registered as a foundation with charitable status. The trust will collate material to explain how old advertisements—already being sought by collectors—came to be planned and written and what results they achieved.

There are plans for an exhibition and the search for premises is on. The first issue of a regular journal has been published this week and more patronage, the latest being Lord Thomson of Monifieth, chairman of the Advertising Standards Authority, are being signed up.

Decanter magazine organized a "blind tasting" yesterday to see if experienced whisky drinkers could distinguish standard blends from the much more expensive de luxe varieties.

Of the distillers' representatives present only one matched Business Diary's score which, at eight out of 12, was the best of the day. Only four people, for example, identified Chivas Regal as a de luxe blend.

Next, it is suggested, the panel should try to pick out the products of the Japanese distillers, which have been built in the shadow of Mount Fuji as copies of Scottish originals with the aid of thousands of "tourists" photographs. It may, the distillers' men said hopefully, prove easier.

Patricia Tisdall

King size changes in the cigarette market

Cigarette manufacturers face radical changes in their sales "mix" with the final phasing in of the EEC tax structure, due to take effect from the beginning of next month.

As a result of the changeover, from a tax based on the weight of tobacco to a system related to the value of the end product, king-size cigarettes, traditionally regarded as an occasional luxury by most British smokers, are likely to take over the lion's share of the market.

More important from the manufacturers' point of view is that smokers are showing every sign of discarding old loyalties and switching to new brands at the same time as making the change to king-size cigarettes.

Such developments have far-reaching implications in the British market for established manufacturers, particularly Imperial Tobacco, whose sales to account for two thirds of the total, as well as the present opportunities for smaller firms like Gallaher and Carreras Rothmans and aspiring newcomers to this market like British American Tobacco and Philip Morris.

Already, the first phase of tax harmonization, introduced in May 1976, has brought the share of sales held by king-size cigarettes to over 10 per cent, from nearly 30 per cent. When the tax adjustment comes fully into operation the expectation is that this category's share of sales will increase to

between 70 and 80 per cent within five years.

The speed of the switch, as the events of the last 18 months have proved conclusively, depends on price. If applied evenly by the manufacturers across the five main sizes of cigarette, the new method of tax collection would in theory mean a 10 per cent reduction in the retail price of king-size cigarettes and an equivalent increase in the price of the smaller sized varieties.

The historical 20 to 30 per cent price gap created by the old structure, where tax (which accounts for 75 per cent of the retail price) is related to weight of tobacco, would diminish to varying points.

The erosion of the price gap naturally encourages smokers to opt for the larger size of cigarette. But the change could be accelerated by a repeat of the price war which followed the first phase of the tax change. This was triggered by a bid by Imperial to buy its way into the king-size sector.

Imperial's tactics only partially succeeded. The 15 per cent price cut on king-size cigarettes last year had dropped to 11 per cent by August, after promotional support was raised. The company's other main runners, two king-size versions of its Embassy range (one with and one without coupons), are estimated jointly to hold about 15 per cent of the sector.

This compares unfavourably with a share of over 33 per cent of sales in this sector of the market held by Gallaher's Benson & Hedges brand and more than 15 per cent for Rothmans King Size.

For competitive reasons, the cigarette producers, who want to avoid another price war, are reticent about their price plans after January 1. However, Gallaher has publicly declared its hand in stating that the recommended price of this product will remain the same under the new tax structure.

It says it has already absorbed tax and other increases of up to 6p a packet and no reduction in prices is possible.

The other producers have indicated that they will follow. An inevitable consequence of the price war has been a drop in profit margins on bigger cigarettes. Were profit margins on king-size cigarettes to be restored to the level achieved before 1976, it is estimated that the present recommended price would be 62.5p a packet rather than the prevailing 55p.

Recommended price lists are, of course, only a rough guide to prices actually charged. As the recent price war showed, manufacturers are prepared to drop well below them. However, one of the features of the new tax system is that this method of price cutting will become more costly.

The impact on each manufacturer of, in effect, subsidizing king-size sales, varies according to the share of its output. The majority of Gallaher and Carreras Rothmans sales are of king-size cigarettes, whereas Imperial's strength has always lain in the smaller categories. Consequently Gallaher and Rothmans have more to lose than Imperial by discounting.

Apart from acting as something of a disincentive to long-term discounting, the multiplier effect of the new tax system, which takes the ad valorem element up from a present level of 22 per cent to 30 per cent, encourages manufacturers to keep production costs down.

Cigarette coupons have almost disappeared. Their demise, which occurred much more quickly than was expected, has his Imperial hardest. More than 80 per cent of the company's cigarettes before 1976 were accompanied by coupons which had the advantage of binding a smoker to a particular brand.

Today, they are included with less than 15 per cent of the group's total.

All these changes have taken place against a background of overall declining sales. As stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie point out, unit sales of cigarettes have been declining steadily ever since swinging duty increases were imposed in the spring budget of 1974.

Mr Fraser—after the triumph the tribulations

Douglas Aiton discusses economic prospects for the Australians in 1978

Next year's economic outlook is a bleak one for Australia. Now that Mr Malcolm Fraser has regained office with a thumping majority he has to put behind him the euphoria of victory and face up to the sobering prospect that within months he is going to be unpopular with the electorate.

Not that he is unaware of this—the reason for calling an uncheduled election was to secure office before bad times threatened his government. He has now grasped three years of uninterrupted power, but will have to bear the brunt of an all-out economic war.

The immediate reaction to Mr Fraser's reelection has been a minor boom on the stock exchange, with particular emphasis on those companies associated with uranium. Mr Fraser has committed Australia to the mining and export of uranium, with the now almost legendary "safeguards" being a condition.

Labour was not so committed to the post-decade uranium boom as it is today. There is no doubt that the Australian Labour Party, generally, is not trusted by the business community. Although the party has a reputation for a "Whitlam regime" to bridge the gap, the economy fell apart so disastrously that it will be a long time, if ever, before the stock exchanges react to a Labour government with anything but suspicion.

Given a healthy growing economy Labour might be tolerated, but the business community expects a government to stimulate optimism and confidence. The Liberals are regarded as being tough and employing tactics that will in the long run work, whereas Labour is regarded as being soft on inflation, unempathetic to the problems of big business, distrustful of foreign investment and unreliable in its decisions.

So the stock exchanges of Australia are pleased, but it will not be long before the country has to face up to the first of the economic problems, the balance of payments. Almost every year since authoritative analysis of national and international economic trends contains a downward adjustment of previous predictions.

For Australia one country in the world is in the balance of trade—Japan. The Japanese are encountering severe economic difficulties which will inevitably affect

present there is nothing to suggest that it will not continue to deteriorate. It was originally expected, in fact, that the election would be fought on Mr Fraser's mismanagement of the unemployment, but in the end it was shown that the electorate did not necessarily admire Labour's performance in that area either.

So unemployment remains the greatest immediate problem. The full impact of the balance of payments problem is difficult to assess. Figures just released show that Australia's balance of payments deficit for November was an overall \$470m (about \$43m), compared with an \$463m surplus in October and an \$46m deficit in September.

There is no doubt that the government has not received the favourable response it expected in the balance of payments.

One particular advantage for Mr Fraser, with the people so solidly disenchanted with the Labour Party, is that his government will now be able to contemplate a medium-term economic policy as a real option. This was not possible even during the nearly 20 years of Menzies government, because that regime, although operating in stable times, did not achieve the authority in electoral terms of the present Fraser Government.

Exactly what any longer term plans would involve is not yet clear, but at least the attempt to reduce inflation at the expense of at least initially raising unemployment will now be continued. There is no doubt that the 1975-1977 Fraser Government was achieving market success in bringing down inflation, although the extravagant election campaign claim of having halved it from 18 per cent to 9, was difficult to justify.

There is also no doubt that unemployment, which became serious during the Whitlam years, worsened during the first Fraser Government and at

ments with the announcement some weeks ago of huge overseas borrowing programmes. One other area of difficulty for Mr Fraser's government is its relationship—which has never been healthy—with the trade union movement. Although the president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, Mr Bob Hawke, has established a strong reputation as someone with a vision at solving industrial disputes, even he is not at all encouraging about industrial unrest.

Early this week he said that the Fraser government's reelection could lead to confrontation next year because "the Government was likely to intensify its attacks on unions as a diversionary tactic for its failure to manage the economy."

This sort of statement can be interpreted as being predictable and political, but it could nevertheless be true to some extent in the sense that the Fraser style is not the sort of conservative government to which the union movement could be expected to respond, especially when legislation directed at preventing strikes has been planned.

Growing balance of payments difficulties, inflation still running at more than 10 per cent



Mr Malcolm Fraser, the newly re-elected Prime Minister: he faces problems on several fronts.

and industrial uncertainty are bad enough, but unemployment at 7 per cent, and going up, will be the biggest problem now facing the country.

SERCK LIMITED

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

Year ended 30 September 1977	1977	1976
Group Sales	78,400	67,900
Profit before interest	9,690	7,274
Interest Charges (net)	366	137
Group Profit before Taxation	9,324	7,137
Group Profit after Taxation	4,636	3,665
Dividends: Interim-paid	770	384
Final—proposed	2,517	1,010
Final—proposed	1,517	539
Earnings per Share	3.94p	1.41p
	12.1p	9.5p

MR. ROBIN MARTIN, CHAIRMAN, REPORTS:

"The Group achieved another record for the third successive year with profit before tax at £9.3m. This time profits rose by 30 per cent and earnings per share by 27 per cent, over the previous year.

This was an excellent achievement in market conditions which were far from easy. Both overseas sales and profits increased at a greater rate than those from the United Kingdom and 52 per cent of our profits are now earned in overseas markets.

World markets for our products, particularly for industrial valves which account for some 40 per cent of our sales, remain difficult and there is as yet no sign of an improvement. The UK industrial scene is also difficult. The start of the current year has not been encouraging and prospects are uncertain. We shall need a concerted effort on the part of all at Serck to match the excellent results achieved last year."

The Annual Report will be posted to shareholders on 10 January 1978 and the Annual General Meeting will be held at Birmingham on 9 February 1978.

SERCK LIMITED
757 WARWICK RD, SOLIHULL B37 3DG

ELECO HOLDINGS LIMITED

Points from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Frank Webster, Year ended 30th June, 1977.

- Results maintained despite difficult trading conditions.
- Policy of new investment continuing throughout the Group.
- Group now better equipped to take full advantage of any expansion in the home market, and to tackle existing export markets more effectively.
- Part sale of Group Investment Properties in November 1977 realised over £1.3m in excess of June 1976 revaluation.
- New industrial portfolio to be created on existing Group sites.

S. Simpson

A good year's trading: turnover and profit at record levels.

The 44th Annual General Meeting of S. Simpson Limited was held on 13th December in London. Dr. S. L. Simpson, Chairman presiding. The following are extracts from his circulated statement.

I am pleased to report a good year's trading in all divisions. In effect, our Turnover and Profit for the Financial Year under review surpassed all previous records. The achievements of the Manufacturing Companies in the second half of the year confirmed the forecast in my last year's Statement. For Simpson (Piccadilly) Ltd. the comprehensive range of DAKS Clothing for men and women played a prominent part in trading and its wide range of fashion goods in all sections also proved highly successful with overseas visitors.

Both the DAKS-Simpson Manufacturing Companies made good progress in the second half of the Financial Year as the benefits of re-organisation, large investments in modern equipment and techniques, creative styling and merchandising and great efforts to meet the needs of potential Export markets, began to be realised.

Royalty incomes from our Licensees abroad are a progressive and useful contribution to profit. These areas require adequate and close liaison with our experts in this country to ensure worldwide standards of design and quality. U.S.A. remains the most expensive potential.

The Company has just finalised an Agreement with Bernard Weatherill Ltd., internationally known for its Riding Wear, to co-operate in the manufacture and marketing of Men's and Women's riding jackets, coats, jodhpurs and breeches.

The Inverto Coat Company increased its turnover and profits substantially, especially in the second half of the year, establishing new high levels. Exports accounted for more than 70% of total sales.

The past year's achievements for the Group and present trading give good grounds for a favourable outlook for the current half year. However, it would be imprudent not to recognise that we are not immune from the general industrial and fiscal problems in this country and overseas. The problems of inflation, industrial and social unrest, increasing charges for essential services and onerous high taxation, inevitably constitute disincentives to entrepreneurs, management, skilled workers and investors, especially as the high rates of taxation in many areas, including investment income, are well beyond those of our industrial competitors in other countries. However, there are some signs of a better understanding of the many complex inter-related problems and of the need for us all to pull together if we are to solve them for the benefit of the country as a whole. With this hope and expectation I retain my qualified optimism for the future.

My sincere thanks, as Chairman, are due to all my colleagues on the Board, and to Management and Staff of all companies within the Group for their efforts and loyal co-operation in achieving a successful and progressive year's trading.

Saint Piran Limited

Summary of Half-Year Results

	6 months to 30/9/77	6 months to 30/9/76	12 months to 31/3/77
Turnover	7,159,000	5,958,000	12,338,000
Pretax profits	1,297,000	798,000	2,093,000

Highlights of Interim Statement

- ★ Dividend—5% interim dividend payable on 3rd February, 1978.
- ★ Trading—Improved results from both mining and housebuilding.
- ★ Outlook—Saint Piran has a very strong base and considerable cash resources with which to pursue its acquisition policy.

Copies of the Interim Statement may be obtained from the Secretary, Saint Piran Limited, 13 Hill Street, Berkeley Square, London W1X 8DS.

South Crofty, Limited

Summary of Half-Year Results

	6 months to 30/9/77	6 months to 30/9/76	12 months to 31/3/77
Turnover	4,125,000	2,874,000	6,676,000
Pretax profits	1,139,000	539,000	1,481,000

Highlights of Interim Statement

- ★ Dividend—18.5% interim dividend payable on 3rd February, 1978.
- ★ Trading—substantially increased profits caused by sustained level of production coupled with rise in tin price.

Copies of the Interim Statement may be obtained from the Secretary, South Crofty, Limited, Station Road, Pool, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 3QH.

Milbury Limited

Summary of Half-Year Results

	6 months to 30/9/77	6 months to 30/9/76	12 months to 31/3/77
Turnover	2,586,000	2,570,000	4,447,000
Pretax profits	267,000	283,000	485,000

Highlights of Interim Statement

- ★ Dividend—6% interim dividend payable on 3rd February, 1978.
- ★ Trading—profitability maintained despite high inflation.
- ★ Land—land bank replenished by purchase of further prime land.

Copies of the Interim Statement may be obtained from the Secretary, Milbury Limited, 178 Old Wallington Road, Eccles, Manchester M30 9QP.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Retailing spearheads recovery as K Shoes again tops £2m

By Tony May

A spirited recovery in the second half has pushed K Shoes back past the £2m mark for the year to September 30. This is better news than seemed likely at half-time, when pre-tax profits from £1.14m to £1.76m, or £762,000, Mr Spencer-Crookenden, chairman, said that problems associated with the close down of the Norwich factory were the main cause of the setback, but this problem was now behind. He expected profits for the full year to be close to the 1975/76 total.

In the event, the second half brought a leap of 68 per cent to £1.32m before tax, leaving the year's total at £2.08m against £1.56m last year and the record £2.7m made in 1972/73. This was achieved on sales 9 per cent up at £43.1m, and points to a rise in margins from 3.79m per cent to 4.65 per cent.

Mr Crookenden says the results reflect a fine performance by the retail outlets. Helped by an upturn in demand over August and September this



Mr. Spencer-Crookenden, chairman of K Shoes.

division made a record profit. The group's results would have been better but for a loss on the retail outlets, K. Shoemakers, which has met tough going.

The close-down at Norwich and the running of several other factories below capacity depressed the first half, and Mr Crookenden says that it took several months to rebuild morale and productivity. The group's factories are now busy, thanks to improved demand this autumn, and the increased forward ordering by retailers for the spring ranges of men's, women's and children's K Shoes. He adds that manufacturing prospects look much brighter than at this time last year.

For the first time, the group has adopted the new accounting standard for valuing stocks, and has stopped providing for deferred taxation. The 1976 figures have been altered for a full comparison.

The results were good for the shares pushing them up 5p to 49p, where the yield is 7.0 per cent. The gross dividend total of 3.44p against 3.21p, and earnings a share 11.27p against 10.03p.

Disruption to mar Smiths Inds

Much the same as Lucas Industries last week assessed the adverse effect of the tool-makers' strike. Mr Roy Sisson, chairman of Smiths Industries, also reports considerable disruption stemming from reaction to the anti-inflation policy.

While many of its sectors were well covered with forward orders, the group's delivery goods were dependent on how the anti-inflation policy was reflected in industrial disruption both in its own and customers' workshops.

Generally, sales and profits of many of its activities showed improvement on a year ago. Mr Sisson cited the main exceptions as its operations with motor vehicle manufacturers and with the aerospace industry, which have been affected by disruption. He gives a warning that because of this total profits for the current half-year will fall below those of the same period. But with signs of a lessening in the disruption, plus improvement within the company, it was on the cards that this opening shortfall could be recouped in the full year.

Yearling bonds down again

After a slight rise to 84 per cent last week, the coupon on this week's batch of local authority bonds has dropped to 74 per cent. The biggest borrower, with £1.5m over one year, is Maidstone, while Edinburgh is raising £1.25m. Haverling, Hoxmou, Portsmouth, Clyde, and Windsor and Maidenhead are each raising £1. A valuable interest rate is preferred by Thamesdown.

Warnford ahead and rental boost to come

Ahead of the upturn in rental income which is expected to stem shortly from the refurbishment and reletting of the predominantly short leasehold portfolio, pre-tax revenue at Warnford Investments climbed by just over £30,000 to £801,000 in the six months to June 24. Shareholders, who include the Seba family with a 36 per cent stake and Cooper Insurance Society with a further 10 per cent, receive a 10 per cent increase in the gross interim dividend to 3.90p a share.

Business appointments

Bowring Group chief to give up executive duties

Mr Edgar Bowring, chairman of The Bowring Group is to give up his executive duties on December 31. He will be succeeded as chairman of Bowmaker by Mr Peter Bowring and as chairman of C. T. Bowring (Insurance) Holdings, by Mr I. E. Binney. Mr Peter Bowring will also succeed Mr Edgar Bowring when the latter retires as group chairman next May.

Mr J. B. H. Martin is to become chairman of Martin The Newsagent next March, succeeding Mr B. H. S. Martin, who is to remain a director and is to become life president. Mr J. B. H. Martin does as marketing director will be taken over by Mr P. J. Martin, the stores co-ordination director. Mr R. G. Schweizer continues as managing director.

Sir Philip Rogers has been elected a non-executive director of Glasco Holdings from January 1. Mr Bernard Norman, director of Retail Travel, and Mr Robert Woodford, group personnel controller, have joined the board of Thomas Cook.

Mr E. H. Boot, chairman and managing director of Henry Boot and Sons, is to become chairman and joint managing director. Mr D. E. Boot is to be deputy chairman and Mr J. B. Parkinson joint managing director.

Mr D. T. Hand has joined the board of N. Brown Investments. Mr B. R. Kiley has been made chairman of Foote, Cone & Belding, succeeding Mr Brian MacCabe, who remains a non-executive director. Mr D. A. Plume has joined the board of Camping Car (GB) as director of marketing. Mr G. T. Checketts becomes managing director and continues as deputy chairman of Hawker Siddeley International. Mr E. F. Jenkins and Mr C. H. Brooks have been made directors.

Mr Barry Griffin has been made chief executive of Stanley Gibbons Products. Mr N. Copson has become a director of London Scottish Finance Corporation. Mr A. S. Rosen has retired.

Wilson Brothers up 40pc at the halfway stage

By Michael Clark

Greetings card publisher Wilson Brothers reports a rise of 40 per cent in pre-tax profits to £485,000 for the 26 weeks to September 30. This is coupled with the good news that pre-tax profits for the full year to March 31 1978 will be substantially higher than for the previous year. The shares stayed firm at 36 1/2p yesterday.

Turnover of this Middlesex-based group was £5.1m for the 26 weeks compared with £4.8m for 27 weeks. Margins rose slightly from 7.11 to 7.95 per cent, and earnings a share are 2.01p against 1.46p. The directors declared an interim divi-

dend of 0.97p compared with 0.75p for the corresponding period. The board has decided that the whole of the 10 per cent increase permitted for the year should be added to the interim dividend.

Recently, Britain's biggest maker of greeting cards Fine Art Developments, increased pre-tax profits by one third to £1.15m. Earlier in the year Fine Art raised £1.85m by way of a rights issue. Fine Art at present holds a 20.17 per cent stake in Wilson Brothers.

In the last full year pre-tax profits of Wilson Brothers fell from £574,000 to £449,000 with turnover up from £7.6m to £8.4m.

GEORGE BASSETT Group has bought 75 per cent of capital of Rogers & Co for £28.27 cash, financed by Euro currency loan. Annual pre-tax profit from assets being acquired £120,772.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASS Acceptances for 82.7 per cent of the 58.7m shares offered as rights. Shares not taken up sold at net premium over offer price, 73p a share, to be distributed to those entitled.

Cawoods face lag after good opening

By Our Financial Staff

Profits at Cawoods Holdings increased by almost a fifth in the first half of the current year but Mr Edward Binks, chairman, is not so confident of the second six months.

Lower interest rates, capital spending and market forces are likely to leave the group below last year's second half profit of £4.5m. Yesterday the shares slipped 4p to 144p.

In the half to September 30 the Harrogate-based fuel distributor-to-road materials conglomerate increased pre-tax profits from a previous £2.4m to £2.9m on turnover up £1.8m to £10.2m.

The 21 per cent improvement in turnover reflected price increases in coal and oil and some growth in volume in the solid and oil fuel, building materials, refractories and container shipping divisions.

Fear by consumers of a miners' strike, and a more normal summer this year, increased demand for domestic coal and coupled to rising prices, this boosted the division's profit contribution. However the chairman gives warning that the improvement could be at the expense of second-half figures.

Solid and oil fuel sales were up, despite severe competition in the market but coal exports remained depressed. Current stocks of oil and oil fuel, totalling £5.2m, show an improvement on the same period last year.

The difficulties of the construction industry and lower house starts have not held back profits in the building and road materials division the chairman reports. This suggests that Cawoods has increased its market share.

The refractories and container shipping services also turned in stepped-up contributions.

Cawoods also has an 11.6 per cent stake in London & Scottish Marine Oil and various interests in eight North Sea blocks held by Total Oil Marine Consortium.

Exploration to cost Hudson's Bay \$150m

Calgary, Alberta.—Mr S. G. Olson, president of Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas, says that 1978 investment plans recently approved by the directors will result in more than \$150m of expenditure for exploration, development and other activities. This will also be 20 per cent higher than the 1977 programme.

Expenditures for oil and gas exploration will be the largest in the group's history at nearly \$90m, with three quarters expected to be spent in Canada and the rest in foreign areas.

In comparison with 1977, this will represent an increase of 40 per cent. The Canadian portion of the 1978 programme will be up by 30 per cent, and will result in participation in the drilling of approximately 120 exploratory wells.

In Alberta, where the majority of the activity will take place, the group expects to participate in 10 deep tests in the foothills and deep basin areas and about 30 exploratory wells in the prolific whitewater block in west-central Alberta.

Ten wells will be drilled in Saskatchewan as part of the heavy oil exploration programme, and four natural gas prospects will be tested in British Columbia.

Donaldson, Lufkin

New York.—Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette has completed the acquisitions of Pershing and Co and Wood Struthers and Woodrop. The combined firms will have a capital base of nearly \$75m including a revolving credit and term loan of \$15m.

Pershing and Co is a New York stock exchange clearing broker and correspondent for more than 100 regional and international securities firms. Wood Struthers and Woodrop is a New York stock exchange member firm.—Reuters.

All well at Daimler

Stuttgart.—Daimler-Benz has had another successful year. The final 1977 turnover figure is put at DM25,500m compared with DM23,500m. Herr Joachim Zehn, management board chairman, said.

International

Car sales are expected to climb 16 per cent to DM11,000m added. Earnings are also expected to grow thanks to an above average rise in car production and sales, particularly of the Mercedes S models.

Goodyear confident

Akron, Ohio.—The United States tyre industry will produce 255m car and truck tyres this year. This is nearly 7 per cent more than the old production record set in 1972, Goodyear tyre & Rubber chairman, Mr Charles J. Pilliod comments.

He says that car tyre output will rise 25 per cent to over 200m units. Truck tyre production will be up 32 per cent to 55m units. The 1978 car tyre market will be 195m units and truck tyre units will total 41m, he estimates.

The United States tyre industry is entering a period of sales stability with a forecast 7 to 7 1/2 per cent increase in car tyre sales over the next year, Mr Pilliod added.

Carter merger plan

New York.—Carter Hawley Stores, which has sold its House of Fraser stake to Lonrho, has proposed merger negotiations with Marshall Field and Co. Carter chief Mr P. M. Hawley said that Marshall Field management has so far been unwilling to enter into negotiations, and no response to his letter has been received. Carter proposes a share exchange valuing Marshall Field shares at \$36 each.

Pechiney's leap

Paris.—Pechiney Ugine Kuhlmann, the big aluminium and chemical group expects 1977's net profits to be between F350m and F500m up from last year's F315m.

The directors told an information meeting that gross consolidated profits this year are expected to be F1.8 billion up from F1.2 billion in 1976.—Reuters.

What does Grindlays bank on?

The Grindlays Bank Group has come a long way from its beginnings in the 19th Century. In 1977 we are a major international bank - a world leader in certain areas - but we work hard to preserve the traditions that put us where we are today. Although the Group is now represented and active all around the world, we have not forgotten that it is people who make our business: our own specialists and managers in head office and branches working alongside other people - our customers.

The success of this team effort can be seen in these examples of the Group's activities - as they happen. They are the result of people's efforts. That is what Grindlays banks on.



THE GROUP PROVIDES BANKING FACILITIES FOR 71 OF THE U.K. TOP 100 INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD. Two of our corporate banking team in London discuss the financing of a project in the Middle East with the Finance Director of a leading British contracting company.

THE GROUP ACTIVELY PROMOTES BRITISH EXPORTS THROUGH ECSD DOLLAR BUYER CREDITS. We have arranged ECSD export finance facilities for British equipment to customers in over 55 countries.

THE GROUP'S TREASURY DIVISION COVERS ALL FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND MONEY MARKET ACTIVITIES. Our foreign exchange dealing room is one of London's most active in the major currencies and also provides quotations in up to 40 other currencies. The Treasury is also active in the eurocurrency and sterling inter-bank markets and in particular offers a service in a wide range of money market instruments.



23 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3ED.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Commodities

[illegible][illegible]

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2424	2425	2426	2427	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2433	2434	2435	2436	2437	2438	2439	2440	2441	2442	2443	2444	2
--	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	---

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

	Ch'go	Gross Weight	Yld %	P/E
2	—	4.2	10.1	7.8
6	—	18.4	12.3	—
6	—	3.3	9.2	15.3
—	—	12.0	8.9	9.3
1	—	5.1	5.0	8.1
6	—	17.5	8.1	—
2	—	11.5	7.9	7.1
6	—	5.0	9.6	6.1
8	—	6.0	5.6	5.9
4	—	27.0	8.4	5.4
4	—	—	—	—
2	—	12.0	16.6	—
2	—	7.0	10.1	8.5
7	—	6.4	7.4	6.4

The Home-Grown Cereals Authority reports in its latest weekly digest that the decline in feed barley prices since August has been followed by rumours of large exports during the 1977-78 season. The authority notes that trade estimates put these exports at about 1.5m tonnes

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	7½%
Barclays Bank	7½%
Consolidated Secs	7½%
First London Sdts	7½%
C. Hoare & Co	*7½%
Lloyds Bank	7½%
London Mercantile	7½%
Midland Bank	6½%
Nat Westminster ..	7½%
Rossminster Acc's	7½%
Shenley Trust	9½%
TSB	7½%
Williams and Glyn's	7½%

* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 and over 4½c, up to £25,000 5½c, 4½c, over £25,000, 5½c.

ouse

ING RESULTS

	Years ended 31st March	1977	1976
		(audited)	
£11	76,965	62,867	
£68	2,605	2,080	
£08	628	538	

*t before tax of the
achieved in the
increase the interim
ment)??*

man, Crown House Limited

ABN Bank	71 1/2%	were:
Barclays Bank	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
Consolidated Crdts	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
First London Secs	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
London Mercantile	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
Midland Bank	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
Nat Westminster	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
Rossminster Acc's	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
Sheeley Trust	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
TSE	71 1/2%	10 1/2%
Williams and Glyn's	71 1/2%	10 1/2%

1/2% deposited on sums of £10,000, 4% over 12 months, 5% over 24 months, 6% over 36 months.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
 52-53 The Quadrant Street London EC4A 3DF
The Over-the-Counter

1976-77			Last
High	Low	Company	Price
44	27	Airsprung Ord	4
150	100	Airsprung 18 1/2% CULS 15%	15
39	25	Arntgate & Rhodes 3%	3
143	105	Bardon Hill	135x
102	48	Deborah Ord	48
216	140	Deborah 17 1/2% CULS 21%	21
147	120	Frederick Parker	14
58	36	James Group	5
114	55	James Burrough	10
340	188	Robert Jenkins	320x
24	17	Twinkl Ord	17
77	57	Twinkl 12% ULS	7
69	51	Unilock Holdings	68x
87	65	Walter Alexander	8

Discount market

The Bank of England saved extremely large help to the Treasury by increasing the amount of this was provided by way of very large overnight loans at 5½ per cent) to the Treasury. The Treasury bills given by local authorities bills on a small scale. The Treasury's liquidity overdone, hence a sharp drop in rates in the closing months to around 3½ per cent. Most of the Treasury's liquidity was cancelled off for the day in the 5-6 per cent band after money had been committed the day before. The Treasury's position was the same. Factors working in the market's favour included slightly above-average bank balances brought over from the previous period, a favourable maturity position for Treasury bills, and very slight excess of

These were outweighed by another fairly large increase in

note circulation of the settlement
for a sizeable amount of gilt-edged
stock sold by the Government
broker on Monday.

Money Market

Rates
Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 7%
(Last changed 29/11/77)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 6-7.5%
Discount Mkt Lenders
Overnight: High 7 Low 3 1/2
Week Fixed: 6-5 1/2

Treasury Bills (Dis%)	
Buying	Selling
3 months 6 1/2	3 months 6 1/4
6 months 6 3/4	6 months 6 1/2
9 months 6 3/4	9 months 6 1/2
12 months 6 3/4	12 months 6 1/2

months 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 months 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Prime Bank Bills (Disc.)	Trades (Disc.)
months 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 months 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
months 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 months 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
months 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 months 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
months 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -7 $\frac{1}{2}$	

Local Authority Bonds			
month	7-62	7 months	7-64
month	7-62	8 months	7-65

months	1-6%	6 months	6-7%
months	7-9%	9 months	6-7%
months	10-12%	12 months	6-7%
months	13-15%	15 months	6-7%
months	16-18%	18 months	6-7%
months	19-21%	21 months	6-7%
months	22-24%	24 months	6-7%
months	25-27%	27 months	6-7%
months	28-30%	30 months	6-7%
months	31-33%	33 months	6-7%
months	34-36%	36 months	6-7%
months	37-39%	39 months	6-7%
months	40-42%	42 months	6-7%
months	43-45%	45 months	6-7%
months	46-48%	48 months	6-7%
months	49-51%	51 months	6-7%
months	52-54%	54 months	6-7%
months	55-57%	57 months	6-7%
months	58-60%	60 months	6-7%
months	61-63%	63 months	6-7%
months	64-66%	66 months	6-7%
months	67-69%	69 months	6-7%
months	70-72%	72 months	6-7%
months	73-75%	75 months	6-7%
months	76-78%	78 months	6-7%
months	79-81%	81 months	6-7%
months	82-84%	84 months	6-7%
months	85-87%	87 months	6-7%
months	88-90%	90 months	6-7%
months	91-93%	93 months	6-7%
months	94-96%	96 months	6-7%
months	97-99%	99 months	6-7%
months	100-102%	102 months	6-7%
months	103-105%	105 months	6-7%
months	106-108%	108 months	6-7%
months	109-111%	111 months	6-7%
months	112-114%	114 months	6-7%
months	115-117%	117 months	6-7%
months	118-120%	120 months	6-7%
months	121-123%	123 months	6-7%
months	124-126%	126 months	6-7%
months	127-129%	129 months	6-7%
months	130-132%	132 months	6-7%
months	133-135%	135 months	6-7%
months	136-138%	138 months	6-7%
months	139-141%	141 months	6-7%
months	142-144%	144 months	6-7%
months	145-147%	147 months	6-7%
months	148-150%	150 months	6-7%
months	151-153%	153 months	6-7%
months	154-156%	156 months	6-7%
months	157-159%	159 months	6-7%
months	160-162%	162 months	6-7%
months	163-165%	165 months	6-7%
months	166-168%	168 months	6-7%
months	169-171%	171 months	6-7%
months	172-174%	174 months	6-7%
months	175-177%	177 months	6-7%
months	178-180%	180 months	6-7%
months	181-183%	183 months	6-7%
months	184-186%	186 months	6-7%
months	187-189%	189 months	6-7%
months	190-192%	192 months	6-7%
months	193-195%	195 months	6-7%
months	196-198%	198 months	6-7%
months	199-201%	201 months	6-7%
months	202-204%	204 months	6-7%
months	205-207%	207 months	6-7%
months	208-210%	210 months	6-7%
months	211-213%	213 months	6-7%
months	214-216%	216 months	6-7%
months	217-219%	219 months	6-7%
months	220-222%	222 months	6-7%
months	223-225%	225 months	6-7%
months	226-228%	228 months	6-7%
months	229-231%	231 months	6-7%
months	232-234%	234 months	6-7%
months	235-237%	237 months	6-7%
months	238-240%	240 months	6-7%
months	241-243%	243 months	6-7%
months	244-246%	246 months	6-7%
months	247-249%	249 months	6-7%
months	250-252%	252 months	6-7%
months	253-255%	255 months	6-7%
months	256-258%	258 months	6-7%
months	259-261%	261 months	6-7%
months	262-264%	264 months	6-7%
months	265-267%	267 months	6-7%
months	268-270%	270 months	6-7%
months	271-273%	273 months	6-7%
months	274-276%	276 months	6-7%

[illegible]

Leaders retreat

\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
"Afore ye go"

[illegible]

Residential property

Jackson-Stops & Staff

14 CURZON STREET, LONDON W1V 7FH (01-499 6291)

YORKSHIRE

York City Centre 4 miles.
SHELFIELD: Substantial late Georgian family house set in nearly 3 acres of grounds, occupying superb position on the outskirts of a pleasant village. Moving Room, Dining Room, Drawing Room, Kitchen and Bathroom on ground floor. 4 principal bedrooms. Bathrooms and secondary accommodation. Oil fired central heating. Garage, Garden Store. Five landscaped grounds to front and rear including 1 acre LAKE. Outline planning permission for 1 lakeside dwelling. Freehold around £25,000.
Apply: YORK OFFICE (0904) 25063

SUSSEX

NEAR HAILSHAM
London 65 miles. Lowest 8 miles. Eastbourne 10 miles.
An impressive country mansion ideally suited for institutional or Scholastic use, subject to planning consent.
6 Reception Rooms, Utility Room, Domestic Offices, 10 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, Shower Room, Outbuildings with Billiard Room, Studio, Bedroom, Shower Room, Old Pottery and a further 4 Bedrooms. About 14 acres in all, including a lake. Office in the grounds.
Apply: LONDON OFFICE (01-499 6291)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

5 miles north of Cirencester.
A delightful Country House in a secluded rural position. Hall, Cloakroom, 3 Reception Rooms, Large Kitchen, Staff Sitting Room, Principal Bedroom & Bathroom suite. 4 further Bedrooms and 2 further Bathrooms. Oil fired Central Heating. Garaging for 3 cars and other Outbuildings. Attractive partly terraced Garden, mainly to rear. Small enclosed Paddock. In all about 12 Acres.
Apply: CIRENCESTER OFFICE (0285) 3334. Ref: RWR

ISLE OF WIGHT

BEMLBRIDGE
Situated in a very quiet location, close to the sea and Bembridge Harbour, a most attractive residence constructed around the 1820s in a fine garden, amounting to about 1/2 acre. Entrance Porch, Spacious Entrance Hall, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Billiard Room, Kitchen, 5 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Conservatory, Garage.
Private Treaty—£38,500.
Apply: CHICHESTER OFFICE (0243) 88186, or Joint Agents: WATSON, BULL & PORTER, BEMBRIDGE (098 387) 2141

LONDON CHESTER YORK NORTHAMPTON NEWMARKET YEOVIL
CIRENCESTER CHICHESTER MIDHURST CHIPPING CAMPDEN

Properties under £25,000

XB. HUSE

Denmark's Finest House Builders!

Would you like to live Danish style in the United Kingdom? We are one of Denmark's finest builders of beautiful homes. The range of our houses are 2 to 14 apartments with a very high standard of insulation. A fully fitted kitchen, including cooker and fridge. Utility room with washing machine, fitted carpeted throughout, double glazing, centrally heated. We will find the site if you do not have one, and our architects carry out the getting of all necessary permits.

The price range is from £19,000 onwards.
We invite you to have a discussion with our Sales Manager. For further details call:

XB GBATS,
102 MAIN STREET, WISHAW, SCOTLAND
Tel. (06983) 75031

Watsons

16/18 DOLPHIN LANE, MELBOURN

For sale by Auction
JANUARY 31 (unless previously sold)

Attractive period cottage in need of modernisation. Situated within village conservation area and presently comprising Dining Hall, Kitchen, Sitting room, Bathroom, 4 Bedrooms, good sized plot with various outbuildings.
2 HIGH STREET, ROYSTON 43285

CLAVERING

Unrepeatable opportunity to acquire a pair of very attractive detached cottages with tremendous potential. 10 miles from Bishop's Stortford and M11.
BISHOPS STORTFORD 52361

London Flats

MICHAEL KOOPMAN AND PARTNERS
01-493 1286/7/8

EATON PLACE, S.W.1 (OFF)
A luxury 4th floor flat of 1 bed, 1 reception, kitchen & bath, large roof terrace. C.H. Lease 99 years. Low outgoings. £40,000. Flat with 2 beds, 2 reception, kitchen & bath. £57,750.

KENSINGTON PARK RD., W.11.
A ground floor flat in modern block of 2 beds, 1 reception, kitchen & bath, C.H., c.w.p. Porter. Entrance hall. Lease 99 years. G.R. £50 p.w. £27,000.

WEST HAMPTSTEAD

A cosy 2nd floor flat in a well known residential area. 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD

An imaginatively refurbished 3rd floor flat in Abbey Rd. 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

GEORGE KNIGHT & PARTNERS

9 HEATH STREET, HAMPSHIRE
Tel. 01-432 2228

THE COLONNADES, W.2

Ultra-modern duplex apartment, masterfully fitted and furnished, ready for immediate occupation. 2 bedrooms, 2 reception, kitchen, bathroom, paved patio. Attractive roof garden. All amenities. Lease 99 years. £70,500. To include C.H. and f. & f. and furniture.

DE GROOT COLLIS

01-235 4166

PIMLICO, SW1

3rd floor balcony flat, lounge with fully fitted kitchen on suite, 1 double bedroom, including fully fitted furniture, bathroom and separate w.c. Immaculate condition. Carport and curtains included. 97 year lease.
£28,000
01-491 9201.

GREENWOOD ROBINS

01-551 0077 anytime.

Bargain at £8,000 o.n.o.

Detached cottage for sale, semi rural, some renovation required. Forest of Dean area.
Phone
Cinderford 24023 (Now 1)

ROBIN HILTON & CO.

01-847 1582

BROCKHAM/BECHWORTH

Cow shop, Dorking B.R. station 3 miles. London 50 miles. 1/2 acre in rural setting. 2 beds, 1 reception, kitchen & bath, paved terrace, small garden. Garage.
FREEHOLD £15,750

New Homes

GARFIELD HILLMAN & CO. LTD.

BIGGERS AND BETTER
161-165 FINSbury PARK
LONDON EC2A 4JH
Tel. 01-353 2457/8 & 01-353 6101/2/3

Field Road, S.W.10

Delightful 1st and 2nd floor flat, modern kitchen, bathroom, central heating, double glazing, 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

Redcliffe Close, S.W.5

Superb south-facing 2nd floor flat, 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

Pimlico, S.W.1

Attractive 1 bedroom flat, centrally located, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

Winkworth & Co.

229 Euston Road, London, S.W.2.
Tel. 01-834 5885

CLAPHAM PARK, S.W.4

Quiet location, Superior 7-year-old, 2nd floor quality flat in small block, 2 double bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

WANDSWORTH COMMON, S.W.12

Attractive 1 bedroom flat, centrally located, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

R. BARCLAY & CO.

TELEPHONE 228 5585

Kenwood

223 Park Road, London W2

INVERNESS TERRACE, W.2

Delightful 2 roomed flat with kitchenette and bathroom. Independent gas c.h., ground floor, 2nd floor, minimal outgoings. Immaculate.
£22,500
to include all contents.
Tel. 01-402 3141

RW

215,500 WANDSWORTH COM.

Highly modernized, 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

ESSEX/SUFFOLK BORDER

2 miles Stoke-by-Nayland. 11 from Colchester. Charming 2/2 bedroom cottage of much character, 1/2 acre garden, 2/2 bed, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

Victoria, S.W.1

Newly decorated, 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

Helen Watson & Co., Bloomsbury, W.C.1

Newly modernized 5th floor flat, 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

SURBITON

Luxury first floor flat close to all amenities. 10 min. Waterloo. 1/2 acre garden, 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

Kenwood

223 Park Road, London W2

THIS FASHIONABLE AREA, W.11

Fully furnished 3 room property, 1 bedroom, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

WEST WALES COUNTRY CHAPEL COTTAGE

BRYNIFYR, 1500 YEARS OLD. 1/2 acre garden, 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

ROY BROOKS ESTATE AGENTS

359 Kings Road, S.W.3. 332 0061

Farms & Smallholdings

78 ACRE farming property for sale. 1/2 acre garden, 2 bedrooms, 1 reception, kitchen & bath. Lease 99 years. £18,500. To be offered by auction.

PROPERTY TO LET

WILTSHIRE, cottage in Forest. Low rent for caretaker and some garden. 01-629 8087 or 0587 478 or Box 2070, 1, The Times.

SURREY

Chobham and Sunningdale 1 mile.
A FINE COUNTRY HOUSE WITH UNINTERRUPTED COUNTRY VIEWS



Additional features: Staff Accommodation, Sauna, Shower Room, Second House, Paddock.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 83 ACRES
Joint Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, London Office (01-499 6222) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (38617/RG)

SURREY

Chobham 2 miles. Woking 3 miles.
(Waterloo 25 minutes).
A BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED ELIZABETHAN STYLE HOUSE

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 83 ACRES
Joint Sole Agents: JOHN GERMAN RALPH PAY, London Office (Tel: 01-499 9671) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (14830/PR)

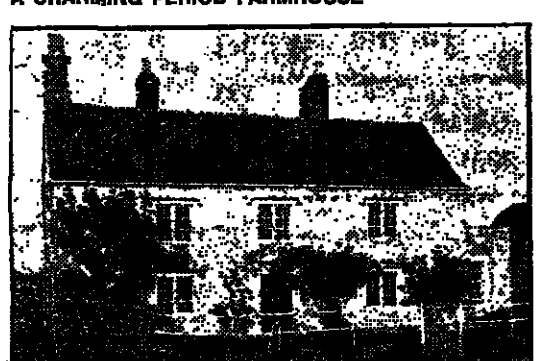
OXFORDSHIRE

Wantage 7 miles. Swindon 11 miles.
(Paddington about 1 hour)
A SPACIOUS FORMER RECTORY ON THE EDGE OF THE BERKSHIRE DOWNS

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 1 ACRE
Joint Agents: VERNON & SON, Abingdon (Tel: 0235 24505) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (38617/RG)

WILTSHIRE

Malmesbury 6 miles. M4 2 miles.
A CHARMING PERIOD FARMHOUSE



Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 1 ACRE
Joint Agents: TILLEY AND CULVERWELL, Malmesbury (Tel: 066-82 8241) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (54677/PR)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 6 ACRES
Further land and stables could be made available
Apply: LONDON OFFICE (Tel: 01-629 8171) (88320/TR)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

ISLE OF WIGHT

Newport 6 miles. Cowes 9 miles.
A PARTICULARLY FINE MANOR HOUSE DATING FROM 1631



Additional features: Summer House, Outbuildings.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 5 ACRES
Farm of 125 acres may be available
Apply: LONDON OFFICE (Tel: 01-629 8171) (17816/RG)

NORTH DEVON

Between Northam and Appledore in the heart of North Devon's attractive countryside.
A THRIVING LEISURE CENTRE

Period House containing 23 flats, 3 bedrooms, malsonette, Billiard Room, Bar and Games Room, Manager's Suite.
2 Chalets, 6 Caravans.
Attractive gardens and grounds containing heated swimming pool and hard tennis court.
Great potential for further development.
In all about 9 acres.
For sale by private treaty as a going concern
Apply: LONDON OFFICE (Tel: 01-629 8171) (88278/RCS)

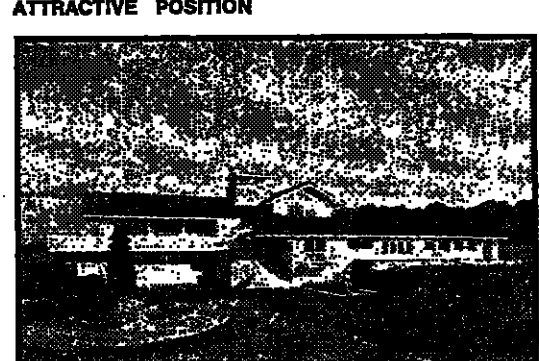
SUSSEX

Hastings. London 65 miles.
A DISTINCTIVE HOUSE WITH MAGNIFICENT MARINE VIEWS BORDERING ON OPEN COUNTRYSIDE

Additional features: Nursery suite, Greenhouses.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 3 ACRES
Joint Sole Agents: TILLEY & OVERTON, Hastings (Tel: 0424 435681) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (88140/PR)

KENT

Meopham 2 miles. Sole Street Station 1 mile.
(Victoria about 45 minutes)
AN INTERESTING CONTEMPORARY HOUSE IN AN ATTRACTIVE POSITION



Additional features: 2 Dressing Rooms. Self Contained guest/staff flat. Sauna. Greenhouse.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 6 ACRES
Further land and stables could be made available
Apply: LONDON OFFICE (Tel: 01-629 8171) (88320/TR)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Additional features: Bath, Water Garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES
Joint Agents: HART & SEARY, Wargrave (Tel: 073-522 2326) and KNIGHT FRANK AND RUTLEY, London Office (Tel: 01-629 8171) (82256/RG)

Christmas Gift Guide

For Everyone

Our Christmas Cards turn into flowers

Interflora Gift Tokens make ideal Christmas Gifts. They're exchangeable at full face value for flowers and plants at over 2,000 Interflora florists throughout the British Isles.

On sale from 50p upwards, with a free greetings card and envelope, you decide how much you want to spend—and leave those you send them to pick whatever flowers they like.

International Gift Cheques from £2 can be sent to 130 countries overseas.

This year, send flowers for the cost of posting a Christmas card.

Interflora Gift Tokens.
Yet another way Interflora makes the day.
Interflora, Stamford, Lines.

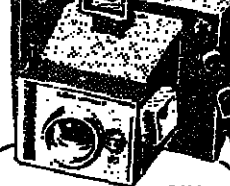
For Everyone

Save £6.50 on a Polaroid Colour Swinger at Argos.

Capture the fun of Christmas as it happens with these special Christmas offers:

Colour Swinger £10.95
Super Colour Swinger £15.25
Super Colour Swinger £11.95

Remember low Argos prices on Polaroid film too!



Colour Swinger Cat. No. 560/2427
Normal Argos Price £17.45
Argos Special Price £10.95
SAVE £6.50

Argos
famous names at discount prices.
*Polaroid® & Swinger® are trademarks of the Polaroid Corporation, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.

For Everyone

Slipper socks

£3.45
DASIS TRADING
Free mail order catalogue
See the catalogue about the 1,000+ items we have for sale.
Box 1, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000, 1002, 1004, 1006, 1008, 1010, 1012, 1014, 1016, 1018, 1020, 1022, 1024, 1026, 1028, 1030, 1032, 1034, 1036, 1038, 1040, 1042, 1044, 1046, 1048, 1050, 1052, 1054, 1056, 1058, 1060, 1062, 1064, 1066, 1068, 1070, 1072, 1074, 1076, 1078, 1080, 1082, 1084, 1086, 1088, 1090, 1092, 1094, 1096, 1098, 1100, 1102, 1104, 1106, 1108, 1110, 1112, 1114, 1116, 1118, 1120, 1122, 1124, 1126, 1128, 1130, 1132, 1134, 1136, 1138, 1140, 1142, 1144, 1146, 1148, 1150, 1152, 1154, 1156, 1158, 1160, 1162, 1164, 1166, 1168, 1170, 1172, 1174, 1176, 1178, 1180, 1182, 1184, 1186, 1188, 1190, 1192, 1194, 1196, 1198, 1200, 1202, 1204, 1206, 1208, 1210, 1212, 1214, 1216, 1218, 1220, 1222, 1224, 1226, 1228, 1230, 1232, 1234, 1236, 1238, 1240, 1242, 1244, 1246, 1248, 1250, 1252, 1254, 1256, 1258, 1260, 1262, 1264, 1266, 1268, 1270, 1272, 1274, 1276, 1278, 1280, 1282, 1284, 1286, 1288, 1290, 1292, 1294, 1296, 1298, 1300, 1302, 1304, 1306, 1308, 1310, 1312, 1314, 1316, 1318, 1320, 1322, 1324, 1326, 1328, 1330, 1332, 1334, 1336, 1338, 1340, 1342, 1344, 1346, 1348, 1350, 1352, 1354, 1356, 1358, 1360, 1362, 1364, 1366, 1368, 1370, 1372, 1374, 1376, 1378, 1380, 1382, 1384, 1386, 1388, 1390, 1392, 1394, 1396, 1398, 1400, 1402, 1404, 1406, 1408, 1410, 1412, 1414, 1416, 1418, 1420, 1422, 1424, 1426, 1428, 1430, 1432, 1434, 1436, 1438, 1440, 1442, 1444, 1446, 1448, 1450, 1452, 1454, 1456, 1458, 1460, 1462, 1464, 1466, 1468, 1470, 1472, 1474, 1476, 1478, 1480, 1482, 1484, 1486, 1488, 1490, 1492, 1494, 1496, 1498, 1500, 1502, 1504, 1506, 1508, 1510, 1512, 1514, 1516, 1518, 1520, 1522, 1524, 1526, 1528, 1530, 1532, 1534, 1536, 1538, 1540, 1542, 1544, 1546, 1548, 1550, 1552, 1554, 1556, 1558, 1560, 1562, 1564, 1566, 1568, 1570, 1572, 1574, 1576, 1578, 1580, 1582, 1584, 1586, 1588, 1590, 1592, 1594, 1596, 1598, 1600, 1602, 1604, 1606, 1608, 1610, 1612, 1614, 1616, 1618, 1620, 1622, 1624, 1626, 1628, 1630, 1632, 1634, 1636, 1638, 1640, 1642, 1644, 1646, 1648, 1650, 1652, 1654, 1656, 1658, 1660, 1662, 1664, 1666, 1668, 1670, 1672, 1674, 1676, 1678, 1680, 1682, 1684, 1686, 1688, 1690, 1692, 1694, 1696, 1698, 1700, 1702, 1704, 1706, 1708, 1710, 1712, 1714, 1716, 1718, 1720, 1722, 1724, 1726, 1728, 1730, 1732, 1734, 1736, 1738, 1740, 1742, 1744, 1746, 1748, 1750, 1752, 1754, 1756, 1758, 1760, 1762, 1764, 1766, 1768, 1770, 1772, 1774, 1776, 1778, 1780, 1782, 1784, 1786, 1788, 1790, 1792, 1794, 1796, 1798, 1800, 1802, 1804, 1806, 1808, 1810, 1812, 1814, 1816, 1818, 1820, 1822, 1824, 1826, 1828, 1830, 1832, 1834, 1836, 1838, 1840, 1842, 1844, 1846, 1848, 1850, 1852, 1854, 1856, 1858, 1860, 1862, 1864, 1866, 1868, 1870, 1872, 1874, 1876, 1878, 1880, 1882, 1884, 1886, 1888, 1890, 1892, 1894, 1896, 1898, 1900, 1902, 1904, 1906, 1908, 1910, 1912, 1914, 1916, 1918, 1920, 1922, 1924, 1926, 1928, 1930, 1932, 1934, 1936, 1938, 1940, 1942, 1944, 1946, 1948, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024, 2026, 2028, 2030, 2032, 2034, 2036, 2038, 2040, 2042, 2044, 2046, 2048, 2050, 2052, 2054, 2056, 2058, 2060, 2062, 2064, 2066, 2068, 2070, 2072, 2074, 2076, 2078, 2080, 2082, 2084, 2086, 2088, 2090, 2092, 2094, 2096, 2098, 2100, 2102, 2104, 2106, 2108, 2110, 2112, 2114, 2116, 2118, 2120, 2122, 2124, 2126, 2128, 2130, 2132, 2134, 2136, 2138, 2140, 2142, 2144, 2146, 2148, 2150, 2152, 2154, 2156, 2158, 2160, 2162, 2164, 2166, 2168, 2170, 2172, 2174, 2176, 2178, 2180, 2182, 2184, 2186, 2188, 2190, 2192, 2194, 2196, 2198, 2200, 2202, 2204, 2206, 2208, 2210, 2212, 2214, 2216, 2218, 2220, 2222, 2224, 2226, 2228, 2230, 2232, 2234, 2236, 2238, 2240, 2242, 2244, 2246, 2248, 2250, 2252, 2254, 2256, 2258, 2260, 2262, 2264, 2266, 2268, 2270, 2272, 2274, 2276, 2278, 2280, 2282, 2284, 2286, 2288, 2290, 2292, 2294, 2296, 2298, 2300, 2302, 2304, 2306, 2308, 2310, 2312, 2314, 2316, 2318, 2320, 2322, 2324, 2326, 2328, 2330, 2332, 2334, 2336, 2338, 2340, 2342, 2344, 2346, 2348, 2350, 2352, 2354, 2356, 2358, 2360, 2362, 2364, 2366, 2368, 2370, 2372, 2374, 2376, 2378, 2380, 2382, 2384, 2386, 2388, 2390, 2392, 2394, 2396, 2398, 2400, 2402, 2404, 2406, 2408, 2410, 2412, 2414, 2416, 2418, 2420, 2422, 2424, 2426, 2428, 2430, 2432, 2434, 2436, 2438, 2440, 2442, 2444, 2446, 2448, 2450, 2452, 2454, 2456, 2458, 2460, 2462, 2464, 2466, 2468, 2470, 2472, 2474, 2476, 2478, 2480, 2482, 2484, 2486, 2488, 2490, 2492, 2494, 2496, 2498, 2500, 2502, 2504, 2506, 2508, 2510, 2512, 2514, 2516, 2518, 2520, 2522, 2524, 2526, 2528, 2530, 2532, 2534, 2536, 2538, 2540, 2542, 2544, 2546, 2548, 2550, 2552, 2554, 2556, 2558, 2560, 2562, 2564, 2566, 2568, 2570, 2572, 2574, 2576, 2578, 2580, 2582, 2584, 2586, 2588, 2590, 2592, 2594, 2596, 2598, 2600, 2602, 2604, 2606, 2608, 2610, 2612, 2614, 2616, 2618, 2620, 2622, 2624, 2626, 2628, 2630, 2632, 2634, 2636, 2638, 2640, 2642, 2644, 2646, 2648, 2650, 2652, 2654, 2656, 2658, 2660, 2662, 2664, 2666, 2668, 2670, 2672, 2674, 2676, 2678, 2680, 2682, 2684, 2686, 2688, 2690, 2692, 2694, 2696, 2698, 2700, 2702, 2704, 2706, 2708, 2710, 2712, 2714, 2716, 2718, 2720, 2722, 2724, 2726, 2728, 2730, 2732, 2734, 2736, 2738, 2740, 2742, 2744, 2746, 2748, 2750, 2752, 2754, 2756, 2758, 2760, 2762, 2764, 2766, 2768, 2770, 2772, 2774, 2776, 2778, 2780, 2782, 2784, 2786, 2788, 2790, 2792, 2794, 2796, 2798, 2800, 2802, 2804, 2806, 2808, 2810, 2812, 2814, 2816, 2818, 2820, 2822, 2824, 2826, 2828, 2830, 2832, 2834, 2836, 2838, 2840, 2842, 2844, 2846, 2848, 2850, 2852, 2854, 2856, 2858, 2860, 2862, 2864, 2866, 2868, 2870, 2872, 2874, 2876, 2878, 2880, 2882, 2884, 2886, 2888, 2890, 2892, 2894, 2896, 2898, 2900, 2902, 2904, 2906, 2908, 2910, 2912, 2914, 2916, 2918, 2920, 2922, 2924, 2926, 2928, 2930, 2932, 2934, 2936, 2938, 2940, 2942, 2944, 2946, 2948, 2950, 2952, 2954, 2956, 2958, 2960, 2962, 2964, 2966, 2968, 2970, 2972, 2974, 2976, 2978, 2980, 2982, 2984, 2986, 2988, 2990, 2992, 2994, 2996, 2998, 3000, 3002, 3004, 3006, 3008, 3010, 3012, 3014, 3016, 3018, 3020, 3022, 3024, 3026, 3028, 3030, 3032, 3034, 3036, 3038, 3040, 3042, 3044, 3046, 3048, 3050, 3052, 3054, 3056, 3058, 3060, 3062, 3064, 3066, 3068, 3070, 3072, 3074, 3076, 3078, 3080, 3082, 3084, 3086, 3088, 3090, 3092, 3094, 3096, 3098, 3100, 3102, 3104, 3106, 3108, 3110, 3112, 3114, 3116, 3118, 3120, 3122, 3124, 3126, 3128, 3130, 3132, 3134, 3136, 3138, 3140, 3142, 3144, 3146, 3148, 3150, 3152, 3154, 3156, 3158, 3160, 3162, 3164, 3166, 3168, 3170, 3172, 3174, 3176, 3178, 3180, 3182, 3184, 3186, 3188, 3190, 3192, 3194, 3196, 3198, 3200, 3202, 3204, 3206, 3208, 3210, 3212, 3214, 3216, 3218, 3220, 3222, 3224, 3226, 3228, 3230, 3232, 3234, 3236, 3238, 3240, 3242, 3244, 3246, 3248, 3250, 3252, 3254, 3256, 3258, 3260, 3262, 3264, 3266, 3268, 3270, 3272, 3274, 3276, 3278, 3280, 3282, 3284, 3286, 3288, 3290, 3292, 3294, 3296, 3298, 3300, 3302, 3304, 3306, 3308, 3310, 3312, 3314, 3316, 3318, 3320, 3322, 3324, 3326, 3328, 3330, 3332, 3334, 3336, 3338, 3340, 3342, 3344, 3346, 3348, 3350, 3352, 3354, 3356, 3358, 3360, 3362, 3364, 3366, 3368, 3370, 3372, 3374, 3376, 3378, 3380, 3382, 3384, 3386, 3388, 3390, 3392, 3394, 3396, 3398, 3400, 3402, 3404, 3406, 3408, 3410, 3412, 3414, 3416, 3418, 3420, 3422, 3424, 3426, 3428, 3430, 3432, 3434, 3436, 3438, 3440, 3442, 3444, 3446, 3448, 3450, 3452, 3454, 3456, 3458, 3460, 3462, 3464, 3466, 3468, 3470, 3472, 3474, 3476, 3478, 3480, 3482, 3484, 3486, 3488, 3490, 3492, 3494, 3496, 3498, 3500, 3502, 3504, 3506, 3508, 3510, 3512, 3514, 3516, 3518, 3520, 3522, 3524, 3526, 3528, 3530, 3532, 3534, 3536, 3538, 3540, 3542, 3544, 3546, 3548, 3550, 3552, 3554, 3556, 3558, 3560, 3562, 3564, 3566, 3568, 3570, 3572, 3574, 3576, 3578, 3580, 3582, 3584, 3586, 3588, 3590, 3592, 3594, 3596, 3598, 3600, 3602, 3604, 3606, 3608, 3610, 3612, 3614, 3616, 3618, 3620, 3622, 3624, 3626, 3628, 3630, 3632, 3634, 3636, 3638, 3640, 3642, 3644, 3646, 3648, 3650, 3652, 3654, 3656, 3658, 3660, 3662, 3664, 3666, 3668, 3670, 3672, 3674, 3676, 3678, 3680, 3682, 3684, 3686, 3688, 3690, 3692, 3694, 3696, 3698, 3700, 3702, 3704, 3706, 3708, 3710, 3712, 3714, 3716, 3718, 3720, 3722, 3724, 3726, 3728, 3730, 3732, 3734, 3736, 3738, 3740, 3742, 3744, 3746, 3748, 3750, 3752, 3754, 3756, 3758, 3760, 3762, 3764, 3766, 3768, 3770, 3772, 3774, 3776, 3778, 3780, 3782, 3784, 3786, 3788, 3790, 3792, 3794, 3796, 3798, 3800, 3802, 3804, 3806, 3808, 3810, 3812, 3814, 3816, 3818, 3820, 3822, 3824, 3826, 3828, 3830, 3832, 3834, 3836, 3838, 3840, 3842, 3844, 3846, 3848, 3850, 3852, 3854, 3856, 3858, 3860, 3862, 3864, 3866, 3868, 3870, 3872, 3874, 3876, 3878, 3880, 3882, 3884, 3886, 3888, 3890, 3892, 3894, 3896, 3898, 3900, 3902, 3904, 3906, 3908, 3910, 3912, 3914, 3916, 3918, 3920, 3922, 3924, 3926, 3928, 3930, 3932, 3934, 3936, 3938, 3940, 3942, 3944, 3946, 3948, 3950, 3952, 3954, 3956, 3958, 3960, 3962, 3964, 3966, 3968, 3970, 3972, 3974, 3976, 3978, 3980, 3982, 3984, 3986, 3988, 3990, 3992, 3994, 3996, 3998, 4000, 4002, 4004, 4006, 4008, 4010, 4012, 4014, 4016,

